

Psalm & Readings Tuesday 19th January 2021

Psalm 132

O Lord, remember in David's favour
all the hardships he endured;
how he swore to the Lord
and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob,
'I will not enter my house
or get into my bed;
I will not give sleep to my eyes
or slumber to my eyelids,
until I find a place for the Lord,
a dwelling-place for the Mighty One of Jacob.'
We heard of it in Ephrathah;
we found it in the fields of Jaar.
'Let us go to his dwelling-place;
let us worship at his footstool.'
Rise up, O Lord, and go to your resting-place,
you and the ark of your might.
Let your priests be clothed with righteousness,
and let your faithful shout for joy.
For your servant David's sake
do not turn away the face of your anointed
one.
The Lord swore to David a sure oath
from which he will not turn back:
'One of the sons of your body
I will set on your throne.
If your sons keep my covenant
and my decrees that I shall teach them,
their sons also, for evermore,
shall sit on your throne.'
For the Lord has chosen Zion;
he has desired it for his habitation:
'This is my resting-place for ever;
here I will reside, for I have desired it.
I will abundantly bless its provisions;
I will satisfy its poor with bread.
Its priests I will clothe with salvation,
and its faithful will shout for joy.
There I will cause a horn to sprout up for David;
I have prepared a lamp for my anointed one.
His enemies I will clothe with disgrace,
but on him, his crown will gleam.'

Amos 7

This is what the Lord God showed me: he was
forming locusts at the time the latter growth
began to sprout (it was the latter growth after the
king's mowings). When they had finished eating
the grass of the land, I said,
'O Lord God, forgive, I beg you!
How can Jacob stand?
He is so small!'
The Lord relented concerning this;
'It shall not be,' said the Lord.
This is what the Lord God showed me: the
Lord God was calling for a shower of fire, and it
devoured the great deep and was eating up the
land. Then I said,
'O Lord God, cease, I beg you!
How can Jacob stand?
He is so small!'
The Lord relented concerning this;
'This also shall not be,' said the Lord God.
This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing
beside a wall built with a plumb-line, with a
plumb-line in his hand. And the Lord said to me,
'Amos, what do you see?' And I said, 'A plumb-
line.' Then the Lord said,
'See, I am setting a plumb-line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;
the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam
with the sword.'
Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King
Jeroboam of Israel, saying, 'Amos has conspired
against you in the very centre of the house of
Israel; the land is not able to bear all his
words. For thus Amos has said,
"Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land."
And Amaziah said to Amos, 'O seer, go, flee away
to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and
prophecy there; but never again prophecy at
Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a
temple of the kingdom.'

Then Amos answered Amaziah, 'I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycomore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."

'Now therefore hear the word of the Lord.

You say, "Do not prophesy against Israel, and do not preach against the house of Isaac."

Therefore, thus says the Lord:

"Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city, and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword,

and your land shall be parcelled out by line; you yourself shall die in an unclean land, and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land.'"

1 Corinthians 6: 12-20

'All things are lawful for me', but not all things are beneficial. 'All things are lawful for me', but I will not be dominated by anything. 'Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food', and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, 'The two shall be one flesh.' But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.