

Psalm and Readings for Evensong Sunday 21st February 2021

Psalm 119:17-32

Deal bountifully with thy servant,
that I may live and observe thy word.
Open my eyes, that I may behold
wondrous things out of thy law.
I am a sojourner on earth;
hide not thy commandments from me!
My soul is consumed with longing
for thy ordinances at all times.
Thou dost rebuke the insolent, accursed ones,
who wander from thy commandments;
take away from me their scorn and contempt,
for I have kept thy testimonies.
Even though princes sit plotting against me,
thy servant will meditate on thy statutes.
Thy testimonies are my delight,
they are my counselors.
My soul cleaves to the dust;
revive me according to thy word!
When I told of my ways, thou didst answer me;
teach me thy statutes!
Make me understand the way of thy precepts,
and I will meditate on thy wondrous works.
My soul melts away for sorrow;
strengthen me according to thy word!
Put false ways far from me;
and graciously teach me thy law!
I have chosen the way of faithfulness,
I set thy ordinances before me.
I cleave to thy testimonies, O Lord;
let me not be put to shame!
I will run in the way of thy commandments
when thou enlargest my understanding!

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Now the serpent was more subtle than any other wild creature that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons.

Romans 5:12-19

Therefore as sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all men sinned— sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded

for many. And the free gift is not like the effect of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

Then as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one man's act of righteousness leads to acquittal and life for all men. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.