

## Psalm and Readings Thursday 1st July 2021

### Psalm 92

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;  
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night,  
to the music of the lute and the harp,  
to the melody of the lyre.  
For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your  
work;  
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.  
How great are your works, O Lord!  
Your thoughts are very deep!  
The dullard cannot know,  
the stupid cannot understand this:  
though the wicked sprout like grass  
and all evildoers flourish,  
they are doomed to destruction for ever,  
but you, O Lord, are on high for ever.  
For your enemies, O Lord,  
for your enemies shall perish;  
all evildoers shall be scattered.  
But you have exalted my horn like that of the wild  
ox;  
you have poured over me fresh oil.  
My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies;  
my ears have heard the doom of my evil  
assailants.  
The righteous flourish like the palm tree,  
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.  
They are planted in the house of the Lord;  
they flourish in the courts of our God.  
In old age they still produce fruit;  
they are always green and full of sap,  
showing that the Lord is upright;  
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness  
in him.

### Job 40

And the Lord said to Job:  
'Shall a fault-finder contend with the Almighty?  
Anyone who argues with God must respond.'  
Then Job answered the Lord:

'See, I am of small account; what shall I answer  
you?  
I lay my hand on my mouth.  
I have spoken once, and I will not answer;  
twice, but will proceed no further.'  
Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:  
'Gird up your loins like a man;  
I will question you, and you declare to me.  
Will you even put me in the wrong?  
Will you condemn me that you may be  
justified?  
Have you an arm like God,  
and can you thunder with a voice like his?  
'Deck yourself with majesty and dignity;  
clothe yourself with glory and splendour.  
Pour out the overflowings of your anger,  
and look on all who are proud, and abase them.  
Look on all who are proud, and bring them low;  
tread down the wicked where they stand.  
Hide them all in the dust together;  
bind their faces in the world below.  
Then I will also acknowledge to you  
that your own right hand can give you victory.  
'Look at Behemoth,  
which I made just as I made you;  
it eats grass like an ox.  
Its strength is in its loins,  
and its power in the muscles of its belly.  
It makes its tail stiff like a cedar;  
the sinews of its thighs are knit together.  
Its bones are tubes of bronze,  
its limbs like bars of iron.  
'It is the first of the great acts of God—  
only its Maker can approach it with the sword.  
For the mountains yield food for it  
where all the wild animals play.  
Under the lotus plants it lies,  
in the covert of the reeds and in the marsh.  
The lotus trees cover it for shade;  
the willows of the wadi surround it.  
Even if the river is turbulent, it is not frightened;  
it is confident though Jordan rushes against its  
mouth.  
Can one take it with hooks  
or pierce its nose with a snare?

## Romans 15: 22-end

This is the reason that I have so often been hindered from coming to you. But now, with no further place for me in these regions, I desire, as I have for many years, to come to you when I go to Spain. For I do hope to see you on my journey and to be sent on by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a little while. At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem in a ministry to the saints; for Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to share their resources with the poor among the saints at Jerusalem. They were pleased to do this, and indeed they owe it to them; for if the Gentiles have come to share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material things. So, when I have completed this, and have delivered to them what has been collected, I will set out by way of you to Spain; and I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in earnest prayer to God on my behalf, that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my ministry to Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company. The God of peace be with all of you. Amen.