

Psalm and Readings Tuesday 21st October 2025

Psalm 87

On the holy mount stands the city he founded;
the Lord loves the gates of Zion
more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
Glorious things are spoken of you,
O city of God.

Among those who know me I mention Rahab and
Babylon;
Philistia too, and Tyre, with Ethiopia—
'This one was born there,' they say.

And of Zion it shall be said,
'This one and that one were born in it';
for the Most High himself will establish it.
The Lord records, as he registers the peoples,
'This one was born there.'

Singers and dancers alike say,
'All my springs are in you.'

2 Chronicles 18:1-27

Now Jehoshaphat had great riches and honour;
and he made a marriage alliance with Ahab. After
some years he went down to Ahab in Samaria.
Ahab slaughtered an abundance of sheep and
oxen for him and for the people who were with
him, and induced him to go up against Ramoth-
gilead. King Ahab of Israel said to King
Jehoshaphat of Judah, 'Will you go with me to
Ramoth-gilead?' He answered him, 'I am with
you, my people are your people. We will be with
you in the war.'

But Jehoshaphat also said to the king of Israel,
'Inquire first for the word of the Lord.' Then the
king of Israel gathered the prophets together,
four hundred of them, and said to them, 'Shall we
go to battle against Ramoth-gilead, or shall I
refrain?' They said, 'Go up; for God will give it into
the hand of the king.' But Jehoshaphat said, 'Is
there no other prophet of the Lord here of whom
we may inquire?' The king of Israel said to
Jehoshaphat, 'There is still one other by whom we
may inquire of the Lord, Micaiah son of Imlah; but
I hate him, for he never prophesies anything
favourable about me, but only disaster.'
Jehoshaphat said, 'Let the king not say such a
thing.' Then the king of Israel summoned an

officer and said, 'Bring quickly Micaiah son of
Imlah.' Now the king of Israel and King
Jehoshaphat of Judah were sitting on their
thrones, arrayed in their robes; and they were
sitting at the threshing-floor at the entrance of
the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets were
prophesying before them. Zedekiah son of
Chenaanah made for himself horns of iron, and
he said, 'Thus says the Lord: With these you shall
gore the Arameans until they are destroyed.' All
the prophets were prophesying the same and
saying, 'Go up to Ramoth-gilead and triumph; the
Lord will give it into the hand of the king.'

The messenger who had gone to summon
Micaiah said to him, 'Look, the words of the
prophets with one accord are favourable to the
king; let your word be like the word of one of
them, and speak favourably.' But Micaiah said,
'As the Lord lives, whatever my God says, that I
will speak.'

When he had come to the king, the king said to
him, 'Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to
battle, or shall I refrain?' He answered, 'Go up
and triumph; they will be given into your hand.'
But the king said to him, 'How many times must I
make you swear to tell me nothing but the truth
in the name of the Lord?' Then Micaiah said, 'I
saw all Israel scattered on the mountains, like
sheep without a shepherd; and the Lord said,
"These have no master; let each one go home in
peace."' The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat,
'Did I not tell you that he would not prophesy
anything favourable about me, but only disaster?'

Then Micaiah said, 'Therefore hear the word of
the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on his throne, with
all the host of heaven standing to the right and to
the left of him. And the Lord said, "Who will
entice King Ahab of Israel, so that he may go up
and fall at Ramoth-gilead?" Then one said one
thing, and another said another, until a spirit
came forward and stood before the Lord, saying,
"I will entice him." The Lord asked him, "How?"
He replied, "I will go out and be a lying spirit in
the mouth of all his prophets." Then the Lord
said, "You are to entice him, and you shall
succeed; go out and do it." So you see, the Lord
has put a lying spirit in the mouth of these your
prophets; the Lord has decreed disaster for you.'

Then Zedekiah son of Chenaanah came up to Micaiah, slapped him on the cheek, and said, 'Which way did the spirit of the Lord pass from me to speak to you?' Micaiah replied, 'You will find out on that day when you go in to hide in an inner chamber.' The king of Israel then ordered, 'Take Micaiah, and return him to Amon the governor of the city and to Joash the king's son; and say, "Thus says the king: Put this fellow in prison, and feed him on reduced rations of bread and water until I return in peace."' Micaiah said, 'If you return in peace, the Lord has not spoken by me.' And he said, 'Hear, you peoples, all of you!'

Mark 15:16-32

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.' And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!' In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King

of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.' Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.