

## Psalm & Readings Wednesday 13th January 2021

### Psalm 20

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble!  
The name of the God of Jacob protect you!  
May he send you help from the sanctuary,  
and give you support from Zion.  
May he remember all your offerings,  
and regard with favour your burnt sacrifices.  
May he grant you your heart's desire,  
and fulfil all your plans.  
May we shout for joy over your victory,  
and in the name of our God set up our banners.  
May the Lord fulfil all your petitions.  
Now I know that the Lord will help his anointed;  
he will answer him from his holy heaven  
with mighty victories by his right hand.  
Some take pride in chariots, and some in horses,  
but our pride is in the name of the Lord our  
God.  
They will collapse and fall,  
but we shall rise and stand upright.  
Give victory to the king, O Lord;  
answer us when we call.

### Amos 3

Hear this word that the Lord has spoken against  
you, O people of Israel, against the whole family  
that I brought up out of the land of Egypt:  
You only have I known  
of all the families of the earth;  
therefore I will punish you  
for all your iniquities.  
Do two walk together  
unless they have made an appointment?  
Does a lion roar in the forest,  
when it has no prey?  
Does a young lion cry out from its den,  
if it has caught nothing?  
Does a bird fall into a snare on the earth,  
when there is no trap for it?  
Does a snare spring up from the ground,  
when it has taken nothing?

Is a trumpet blown in a city,  
and the people are not afraid?  
Does disaster befall a city,  
unless the Lord has done it?  
Surely the Lord God does nothing,  
without revealing his secret  
to his servants the prophets.  
The lion has roared;  
who will not fear?  
The Lord God has spoken;  
who can but prophesy?  
Proclaim to the strongholds in Ashdod,  
and to the strongholds in the land of Egypt,  
and say, 'Assemble yourselves on Mount Samaria,  
and see what great tumults are within it,  
and what oppressions are in its midst.'  
They do not know how to do right, says the Lord,  
those who store up violence and robbery in  
their strongholds.  
Therefore, thus says the Lord God:  
An adversary shall surround the land,  
and strip you of your defence;  
and your strongholds shall be plundered.  
Thus says the Lord: As the shepherd rescues from  
the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an  
ear, so shall the people of Israel who live in  
Samaria be rescued, with the corner of a couch  
and part of a bed.  
Hear, and testify against the house of Jacob,  
says the Lord God, the God of hosts:  
On the day I punish Israel for its transgressions,  
I will punish the altars of Bethel,  
and the horns of the altar shall be cut off  
and fall to the ground.  
I will tear down the winter house as well as the  
summer house;  
and the houses of ivory shall perish,  
and the great houses shall come to an end,  
says the Lord.

## 1 Corinthians 2

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,

nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him' — these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are discerned spiritually. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

'For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?'

But we have the mind of Christ.