

## Psalm and Readings Tuesday 4th May 2021

### Psalm 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God;  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.  
Day to day pours forth speech,  
and night to night declares knowledge.  
There is no speech, nor are there words;  
their voice is not heard;  
yet their voice goes out through all the earth,  
and their words to the end of the world.  
In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,  
which comes out like a bridegroom from his  
wedding canopy,  
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.  
Its rising is from the end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to the end of them;  
and nothing is hidden from its heat.  
The law of the Lord is perfect,  
reviving the soul;  
the decrees of the Lord are sure,  
making wise the simple;  
the precepts of the Lord are right,  
rejoicing the heart;  
the commandment of the Lord is clear,  
enlightening the eyes;  
the fear of the Lord is pure,  
enduring for ever;  
the ordinances of the Lord are true  
and righteous altogether.  
More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey,  
and drippings of the honeycomb.  
Moreover by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.  
But who can detect their errors?  
Clear me from hidden faults.  
Keep back your servant also from the insolent;  
do not let them have dominion over me.  
Then I shall be blameless,  
and innocent of great transgression.  
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of  
my heart  
be acceptable to you,  
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

### Deuteronomy 17: 8-end

If a judicial decision is too difficult for you to  
make between one kind of bloodshed and  
another, one kind of legal right and another, or  
one kind of assault and another—any such  
matters of dispute in your towns—then you shall  
immediately go up to the place that the Lord your  
God will choose, where you shall consult with the  
levitical priests and the judge who is in office in  
those days; they shall announce to you the  
decision in the case. Carry out exactly the  
decision that they announce to you from the  
place that the Lord will choose, diligently  
observing everything they instruct you. You must  
carry out fully the law that they interpret for you  
or the ruling that they announce to you; do not  
turn aside from the decision that they announce  
to you, either to the right or to the left. As for  
anyone who presumes to disobey the priest  
appointed to minister there to the Lord your God,  
or the judge, that person shall die. So you shall  
purge the evil from Israel. All the people will hear  
and be afraid, and will not act presumptuously  
again.

When you have come into the land that  
the Lord your God is giving you, and have taken  
possession of it and settled in it, and you say, 'I  
will set a king over me, like all the nations that are  
around me', you may indeed set over you a king  
whom the Lord your God will choose. One of your  
own community you may set as king over you;  
you are not permitted to put a foreigner over  
you, who is not of your own community. Even so,  
he must not acquire many horses for himself, or  
return the people to Egypt in order to acquire  
more horses, since the Lord has said to you, 'You  
must never return that way again.' And he must  
not acquire many wives for himself, or else his  
heart will turn away; also silver and gold he must  
not acquire in great quantity for himself. When  
he has taken the throne of his kingdom, he shall  
have a copy of this law written for him in the  
presence of the levitical priests. It shall remain  
with him and he shall read in it all the days of his  
life, so that he may learn to fear the Lord his God,

diligently observing all the words of this law and these statutes, neither exalting himself above other members of the community nor turning aside from the commandment, either to the right or to the left, so that he and his descendants may reign long over his kingdom in Israel.

### **1 Peter 1:13-end**

Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; for it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. For

'All flesh is like grass

and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,

and the flower falls,

but the word of the Lord endures for ever.'

That word is the good news that was announced to you.