

Second Readings From The New Testament

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A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have gained access [by faith]
to this grace in which we stand,
and we boast in hope of the glory of God.

Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions,
knowing that affliction produces endurance,
and endurance, proven character,
and proven character, hope,
and hope does not disappoint,
because the love of God
has been poured out into our hearts
through the holy Spirit that has been given to us.

The Word of the Lord.

An Additional Reading from the New Testament

Romans 5:1-5
Faith, Hope, and Love

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Hope does not disappoint,

because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For Christ, while we were still helpless,

died at the appointed time for the ungodly.

Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,

though perhaps for a good person
one might even find courage to die.

But God proves his love for us

in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood,

will we be saved through him from the wrath.

Indeed, if, while we were enemies,

we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,
how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life.

Not only that, but we also boast of God

through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

Romans 5:5-11

Since we are now justified by his Blood, we will be saved through him from the wrath.

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

If, by the transgression of the one,
death came to reign through that one,
how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace
and of the gift of justification
come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ.

In conclusion, just as through one transgression
condemnation came upon all,
so, through one righteous act,
acquittal and life came to all.

For just as through the disobedience of the one man
the many were made sinners,
so through the obedience of the one
the many will be made righteous.

The law entered in so that transgression might increase
but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more,
so that, as sin reigned in death,
grace also might reign through justification for eternal life
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Romans 5:17-21
Where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more.

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus
were baptized into his death?

We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death,
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his,
we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.

We know that our old self was crucified with him,
so that our sinful body might be done away with,
that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.

For a dead person has been absolved from sin.

If, then, we have died with Christ,
we believe that we shall also live with him.

We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;
death no longer has power over him.

The Word of the Lord.

Romans 6:3-9 (long form)
We too might live in newness of life.

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus
were baptized into his death?

We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death,
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
we too might live in newness of life.

If, then, we have died with Christ,
we believe that we shall also live with him.

We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;
death no longer has power over him.

The Word of the Lord.

Romans 6:3-4,8-9 (short form)
We too might live in newness of life.

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,

but you received a spirit of adoption,

through which we cry, Abba, "Father!"

The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit

that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs,

heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with

him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing

compared with the glory to be revealed for us.

For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the

children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of

its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope

that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption

and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we

ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves

as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The Word of the Lord.

Romans 8:14-23

We also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us?

He did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all,
will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?

It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn?

It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised,
who also is at the right hand of God,
who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will anguish, or distress or persecution, or famine,
or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly
through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels,
nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor any other creature will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39
What will separate us from the love of Christ?

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

No one lives for oneself,

and no one dies for oneself.

For if we live, we live for the Lord,

and if we die, we die for the Lord;

so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

For this is why Christ died and came to life,

that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why then do you judge your brother?

Or you, why do you look down on your brother?

For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God;

for it is written:

As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me,

and every tongue shall give praise to God.

So then each of us shall give an accounting of himself to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12
Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

A Reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love,

I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.

And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries
and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains
but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so
that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not
pompous, it is not inflated,

it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests,

it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury,

it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing;
if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing.

So faith, hope, love remain, these three;

but the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord.

*1 Corinthians 13:1-8, 13
The Way of Love.*

An Additional Reading from the New Testament

A Reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised from the dead,

the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since death came through a man,

the resurrection of the dead came also through man.

For just as in Adam all die,

so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,

but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits;

then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ;

then comes the end,

when he hands over the Kingdom to his God and Father.

For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

The last enemy to be destroyed is death,

for “he subjected everything under his feet.” But when it says

that everything has been subjected, it is clear

that it excludes the one who subjected everything to him.

When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself

will also be subjected to the one who subjected everything

to him, so that God may be all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

*1 Corinthians 15:20-28 (long form)
So too in Christ shall all be brought to life.*

A Reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised from the dead,
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since death came through a man,
the resurrection of the dead came also through man.

For just as in Adam all die,
so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,
but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits;
then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

*1 Corinthians 15:20-23 (short form)
So too in Christ shall all be brought to life.*

A Reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep,

but we will all be changed,

in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet.

For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be

raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with

incorruptibility, and that which is mortal must clothe itself

with immortality.

And when this which is corruptible

clothes itself with incorruptibility

and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality,

then the word that is written shall come about:

Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

The sting of death is sin,

and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God who gives us the victory

through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

*1 Corinthians 15:51-57
Death is swallowed up in victory.*

A Reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Knowing that the One who raised the Lord Jesus

will raise us also with Jesus

and place us with you in his presence.

Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace

bestowed in abundance on more and more people

may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God.

Therefore, we are not discouraged;

rather, although our outer self is wasting away,

our inner self is being renewed day by day.

For this momentary light affliction is producing for us

an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,

as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen;

for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent,

should be destroyed,

we have a building from God,

a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

The Word of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 4:14–5:1

What is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

A Reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

We know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent,
should be destroyed,
we have a building from God,
a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

We are always courageous,
although we know that while we are at home in the body
we are away from the Lord,
for we walk by faith, not by sight.

Yet we are courageous,
and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord.

Therefore, we aspire to please him,
whether we are at home or away.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ,
so that each may receive recompense,
according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The Word of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10
We have a building from God, eternal in heaven.

A Reading from St, Paul to the Ephesians

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing
in the heavens,
as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world,
to be holy and without blemish before him. In love
he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ,
in accord with the favor of his will,
for the praise of the glory of his grace that he granted us
in the beloved.

The Word of the Lord.

Ephesians 1:3-6
The Father's Plan of Salvation.
An Additional Reading from the New Testament

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters: Our citizenship is in heaven,

and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified Body

by the power that enables him also

to bring all things into subjection to himself.

The Word of the Lord.

Philippians 3:20-21

He will change our lowly bodies to conform to his glory.

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Rejoice in the Lord always.

I shall say it again: rejoice!

Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near.

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition,

with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.

Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding

will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable,

whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely,

whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and

if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Keep on doing what you have learned and received

and heard and seen in me.

Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

Philippians 4:4-9

Joy and Peace.

An Additional Reading from the New Testament

A Reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters,

about those who have fallen asleep,

so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose,

so too will God, through Jesus,

bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord,

that we who are alive,

who are left until the coming of the Lord,

will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.

For the Lord himself, with a word of command,

with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God,

will come down from heaven,

and the dead in Christ will rise first.

Then we who are alive, who are left,

will be caught up together with them in the clouds

to meet the Lord in the air.

Thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Therefore, console one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Thus we shall always be with the Lord.

A Reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved: Remember Jesus Christ,

raised from the dead, a descendant of David: such is my Gospel, for which I am suffering,
even to the point of chains,

like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained.

Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are
chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in
Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.

This saying is trustworthy:

If we have died with him we shall also live with him;
if we persevere we shall also reign with him.

But if we deny him he will deny us.

If we are unfaithful

he remains faithful,

for he cannot deny himself.

The Word of the Lord.

2 Timothy 2:8-13
If we have died with him we shall also live with him.

A Reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

For I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time
of my departure is at hand. I have competed well;

I have finished the race; I have kept the faith.

From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the
Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and
not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance.

The Word of the Lord.

2 Timothy 4:6-8

A Reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

For I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time
of my departure is at hand. I have competed well;

I have finished the race; I have kept the faith.

From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the
Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and
not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance.

At my first defense no one appeared on my behalf, but everyone
deserted me. May it not be held against them!

But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me
the proclamation might be completed and all the Gentiles
might hear it. And I was rescued from the lion's mouth.

The Lord will rescue me from every evil threat
and will bring me safe to his heavenly kingdom.

To him be glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Reward for Fidelity.

An Additional Reading from the New Testament

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Let mutual love continue.

Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels.

Let your life be free from love of money but be content with what you have, for he has said,
“I will never forsake you or abandon you.”

Thus we may say with confidence:

“The Lord is my helper,
and I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?”

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

May the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great shepherd of the sheep by the blood of the eternal covenant, Jesus our Lord,

furnish you with all that is good, that you may do his will.

May he carry out in you what is pleasing to him

through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Hebrews 13:1-2, 5-6, 8, 20-21
Final exhortation, blessing, greeting
An Additional Reading from the New Testament

A Reading from the First Letter of Saint John

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us
that we may be called the children of God.

Yet so we are.

The reason the world does not know us
is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.

The Word of the Lord.

*1 John 3:1-2
We shall see him as he is.*

A Reading from the First Letter of Saint John

Beloved:

We know that we have passed from death to life
because we love our brothers.

Whoever does not love remains in death.

Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer,
and you know that no murderer has
eternal life remaining in him.

The way we came to know love
was that he laid down his life for us;
so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

1 John 3:14-16

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers.