

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Old Testament is written in the fifth chapter of Ecclesiasticus, beginning at the first verse.

This passage is taken from the Apocrypha. Ecclesiasticus is also known as Sirach.

(Pause to allow parishioners to find the page.)

“Do not set your heart on your wealth,
nor say, “I have enough.”

Do not follow your inclination and
strength, walking according to the
desires of your heart.

Do not say, “Who will have power over
me?” for the Lord will surely punish
you.

Do not say, “I sinned, and what
happened to me?” for the Lord is slow
to anger.

Do not be so confident of atonement
that you add sin to sin.

Do not say, “His mercy is great, he will
forgive the multitude of my sins,” for
both mercy and wrath are with him, and
his anger rests on sinners.

Do not delay to turn to the Lord, nor
postpone it from day to day; for
suddenly the wrath of the Lord will go
forth, and at the time of punishment you
will perish.

Do not depend on dishonest wealth, for
it will not benefit you in the day of
calamity.

Do not winnow with every wind, nor
follow every path: the double-tongued
sinner does that.

Be steadfast in your understanding, and
let your speech be consistent.

(Pause for a count of 5)

This is the word of the Lord.

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Psalm 49

- 1 O HEAR ye this, all ye people; * ponder it with your ears, all ye that dwell in the world;
- 2 High and low, rich and poor, * one with another.
- 3 My mouth shall speak of wisdom, * and my heart shall muse of understanding.
- 4 I will incline mine ear to the parable, * and show my dark speech upon the harp.
- 5 Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil, * when wickedness at my heels compasseth me round about?
- 6 There be some that put their trust in their goods, * and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches.
- 7 But no man may deliver his brother, * nor give a ransom unto God for him,
- 8 (For it cost more to redeem their souls, * so that he must let that alone for ever;)
- 9 That he shall live alway, * and not see the grave.
- 10 For he seeth that wise men also die and perish together, * as well as the ignorant and foolish, and leave their riches for other.
- 11 And yet they think that their houses shall continue for ever, and that their dwelling-places shall endure from one generation to another; * and call the lands after their own names.
- 12 Nevertheless, man being in honour abideth not, * seeing he may be compared unto the beasts that perish;
- 13 This their way is very foolishness; * yet their posterity praise their saying.
- 14 They lie in the grave like sheep; death is their shepherd; and the righteous shall have dominion over them in the morning: * their beauty shall consume in the sepulchre, and have no abiding.
- 15 But God hath delivered my soul from the power of the grave; * for he shall receive me.
- 16 Be not thou afraid, though one be made rich, * or if the glory of his house be increased;
- 17 For he shall carry nothing away with him when he dieth, * neither shall his pomp follow him.

18 For while he lived, he counted himself an happy man; * and so long as thou doest well unto thyself, men will speak good of thee.

19 He shall follow the generation of his fathers, * and shall never see light.

20 Man that is in honour but hath no understanding * is compared unto the beasts that perish.

Glory be...

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The Epistle is written in the sixth chapter of St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians, beginning at the eleventh verse.

This passage may be found in the Book of Common Prayer on page 210.

(Pause to allow parishioners to find the page.)

YE see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand.

As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ.

For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh.

But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

(Pause for a count of 5)

This is the word of the Lord.