

The Feast of All Saints

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

This passage is from the Apocrypha.

(Pause to allow parishioners to find the page.)

Then the righteous man will stand with
great confidence
in the presence of those who have afflicted
him,
and those who make light of his labors.

² When they see him, they will be shaken
with dreadful fear,
and they will be amazed at his unexpected
salvation.

³ They will speak to one another in
repentance,
and in anguish of spirit they will groan, and
say,

⁴ “This is the man whom we once held in
derision
and made a byword of reproach—we fools!
We thought that his life was madness
and that his end was without honor.

⁵ Why has he been numbered among the
sons of God?
And why is his lot among the saints?

¹⁴ Because the hope of the ungodly man is
like chaff^[a] carried by the wind,
and like a light hoarfrost^[b] driven away by a
storm;
it is dispersed like smoke before the wind,
and it passes like the remembrance of a
guest who stays but a day.

¹⁵ But the righteous live for ever,
and their reward is with the Lord;
the Most High takes care of them.

¹⁶ Therefore they will receive a glorious
crown
and a beautiful diadem from the hand of
the Lord,
because with his right hand he will cover
them,
and with his arm he will shield them.

(Pause for a count of 5)

This is the word of the Lord.

The Feast of All Saints

Psalm 97

¹ The Lord reigns;
Let the earth rejoice;
Let the multitude of ^[a]isles be glad!

² Clouds and darkness surround Him;
Righteousness and justice *are* the
foundation of His throne.

³ A fire goes before Him,
And burns up His enemies round
about.

⁴ His lightnings light the world;
The earth sees and trembles.

⁵ The mountains melt like wax at the
presence of the Lord,
At the presence of the Lord of the
whole earth.

⁶ The heavens declare His
righteousness,
And all the peoples see His glory.

⁷ Let all be put to shame who serve
carved images,
Who boast of idols.

Worship Him, all *you* gods.

⁸ Zion hears and is glad,
And the daughters of Judah rejoice
Because of Your judgments, O Lord.

⁹ For You, Lord, *are* most high above
all the earth;
You are exalted far above all gods.

¹⁰ You who love the Lord, hate evil!
He preserves the souls of His saints;
He delivers them out of the hand of
the wicked.

¹¹ Light is sown for the righteous,
And gladness for the upright in heart.

¹² Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous,
And give thanks ^[b]at the
remembrance of ^[c]His holy name.

Glory be...

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The Epistle is written in the seventh chapter of the Revelation of St John, beginning at the second verse.

This passage may be found in the Book of Common Prayer on page 256.

(Pause to allow parishioners to find the page.)

AND I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and peoples, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four living creatures, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, saying,

Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

(Pause for a count of 5)

This is the word of the Lord