Pastor's Bible Study

July 14, 2024 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

LSB 743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure



5 Evil world, I leave thee;
Thou canst not deceive me,
Thine appeal is vain.
Sin that once did blind me,
Get thee far behind me,
Come not forth again.
Past thy hour,
O pride and pow'r;
Sinful life, thy bonds I sever,
Leave thee now forever.

6 Hence, all fear and sadness!
For the Lord of gladness,
Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father,
Though the storms may gather,
Still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er
I here must bear,
Thou art still my purest pleasure,
Jesus, priceless treasure!

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Read Amos 7:7-15:

- 1. When and to whom was Amos sent as a prophet of God?
- 2. Who are Jeroboam and Amaziah?
- 3. What is the purpose of the plumb line image?
- 4. What do we learn about Amos in his response to Amaziah?

Read Mark 6:14-29:

- 1. Why was Jesus' name becoming known to Herod?
- 2. Which Herod is Mark talking about here?
- 3. What do Herod's and the people's misidentifications share about Jesus?
- 4. In verse 17, is Mark talking about the present or the past?
- 5. Who is Herodias?

Read Ephesians 1:3-14:

- 1. Look through verses 3-14 closely, how many sentences does your translation have?
- 2. Paul refers to predestination in verses 5 & 11, isn't predestination a bad thing?
- 3. Back up to verse 1, how has God the Father blessed us with "every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places?"
- 4. Has God really made known to us the "mystery of his will," as verse 9 says?

Devotional Thought:

Paul directs the Ephesians away from themselves, teaching them to trust in God's promises in Christ. Pride tempts us to trust in our commitment to God; doubt makes us worry that we are not committed enough. Jesus blesses us spiritually by leading us to repent of sinful pride by the Law and calming our worried hearts through the Gospel. (Adapted from the Lutheran Study Bible, 2018).

Prayer:

Father, forgive my self-centeredness, and teach me to rely on your loving plan for me; through Jesus Christ. Amen.