

Bible Reading | Monday, May 25th

Psalm

24 How many are your works, LORD!
 In wisdom you made them all;
 the earth is full of your creatures.

25 There is the sea, vast and spacious,
 teeming with creatures beyond number—
 living things both large and small.

26 There the ships go to and fro,
 and Leviathan, which you formed to frolic there.

27 All creatures look to you
 to give them their food at the proper time.

28 When you give it to them,
 they gather it up;
when you open your hand,
 they are satisfied with good things.

29 When you hide your face,
 they are terrified;
when you take away their breath,
 they die and return to the dust.

30 When you send your Spirit,
 they are created,
 and you renew the face of the ground.

31 May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
 may the LORD rejoice in his works—

32 he who looks at the earth, and it trembles,
 who touches the mountains, and they smoke.

33 I will sing to the LORD all my life;
 I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

34 May my meditation be pleasing to him,
 as I rejoice in the LORD.

35 But may sinners vanish from the earth
 and the wicked be no more.
Praise the LORD, my soul.
Praise the LORD.

(Psalm 104:24-35)

Old Testament

18 Then the LORD was jealous for his land
and took pity on his people.

19 The LORD replied to them:

“I am sending you grain, new wine and olive oil,
enough to satisfy you fully;
never again will I make you
an object of scorn to the nations.

20 “I will drive the northern horde far from you,
pushing it into a parched and barren land;
its eastern ranks will drown in the Dead Sea
and its western ranks in the Mediterranean Sea.
And its stench will go up;
its smell will rise.”

21 Surely he has done great things!
Do not be afraid, land of Judah;
be glad and rejoice.

22 Surely the LORD has done great things!
Do not be afraid, you wild animals,
for the pastures in the wilderness are becoming green.
The trees are bearing their fruit;
the fig tree and the vine yield their riches.

23 Be glad, people of Zion,
rejoice in the LORD your God,
for he has given you the autumn rains
because he is faithful.

He sends you abundant showers,
both autumn and spring rains, as before.

24 The threshing floors will be filled with grain;
the vats will overflow with new wine and oil.

25 “I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten—
the great locust and the young locust,
the other locusts and the locust swarm —
my great army that I sent among you.

26 You will have plenty to eat, until you are full,
and you will praise the name of the LORD your God,
who has worked wonders for you;
never again will my people be shamed.

27 Then you will know that I am in Israel,
that I am the LORD your God,
and that there is no other;
never again will my people be shamed.

28 “And afterward,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your old men will dream dreams,
your young men will see visions.
29 Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days.
(Joel 2:18-29)

New Testament

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 19 For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have?
(Romans 8:18-24)