

VERSE: Romans 3:23-24 ***“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”***

PRAYER of the WORD

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, without Your help our labor is useless, and without Your light our search is in vain. Invigorate our study of Your holy Word that, by due diligence and right discernment, we may establish ourselves and others in Your holy faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 9

- Read **Book 2: Psalm 68** (God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered.)
- Read **The Catholic Epistles: 2 Peter**

ANDREAS: Peter does not say that the prophets interpreted their own sayings. They were not speaking to themselves but serving the Holy Spirit. What is the interpretation of their words if not the works which Christ revealed when he came? So if anyone wants to understand the words of the prophets properly, let him obtain faith in Jesus Christ, through which he will recognize the divine message. John bore witness before we did. Christ came from heaven, enlightening everyone. Likewise he showed that the power to prophesy is of the Holy Spirit, as did the apostle Paul when he said: “To another [the gift of] prophecy, etc.” So



- 3 But all of that was washed away—
 Immersed and drowned forever.
 The water of your Baptism day
 Restored again whatever
 Old Adam and his sin destroyed
 And all our sinful selves employed
 According to our nature.
- 4 In Baptism we now put on Christ—
 Our shame is fully covered
 With all that He once sacrificed
 And freely for us suffered.
 For here the flood of His own blood
 Now makes us holy, right, and good
 Before our heav'nly Father.
- 5 O Christian, firmly hold this gift
 And give God thanks forever!
 It gives the power to uplift
 In all that you endeavor.
 When nothing else revives your soul,
 Your Baptism stands and makes you whole
 And then in death completes you.
- 6 So use it well! You are made new—
 In Christ a new creation!
 As faithful Christians, live and do
 Within your own vocation,
 Until that day when you possess
 His glorious robe of righteousness
 Bestowed on you forever!

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the one who prophesies is undoubtedly speaking with a tongue inspired by the Holy Spirit. CATENA.¹

Monday, March 10

- Read **Book 2: Psalm 69** (Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck.)
- Read **The Torah: Leviticus 1-3**

BEDE: In very many ceremonies of the law one who needed to be cleansed was ordered to be cleansed by [offering] these [birds]. A pigeon indicates simplicity and a turtledove indicates chastity, for a pigeon is a lover of simplicity and a turtledove is a lover of chastity—so that if by chance one loses its mate it will not subsequently seek another.

HOMILIES ON THE GOSPELS 1.18.²

Tuesday, March 11

- Read **Book 2: Psalm 70** (Make haste, O God, to deliver me!)
- Read **The Torah: Leviticus 4-6**

CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA: Through Moses God orders that two young birds, a pair of pigeons or of turtledoves, be offered for any sin. This means that the sinlessness of such gentle birds and their

¹ Bray, Gerald, ed. 2000. [James, 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

² Lienhard, Joseph T., and Ronnie J. Rombs, eds. 2001. [Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

guilelessness and forgetfulness of injury is very acceptable to God. So he is instructing us to offer a sacrifice bearing the character of that against which we have offended. The plight of the poor doves, moreover, will instill into us a beginning of abhorrence for sin. CHRIST THE EDUCATOR 1.5.14.³

Wednesday, March 12

- Read **Book 2: Psalm 71** (In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me.)
- Read **The Torah: Leviticus 7-9**

CYRIL OF JERUSALEM: Well is the church named *ecclesia* [“assembly”], because it calls forth and assembles all men, as the Lord says in Leviticus: “Then assemble the whole community at the entrance of the meeting tent.” It is worthy of note that this word *assemble* is used in the Scriptures for the first time in the passage when the Lord established Aaron in the high priesthood. In Deuteronomy God says to Moses, “Assemble the people for me; I will have them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me.”² He mentions the name of the church again when he says of the tablets: “And on them were inscribed all the words that the Lord spoke to you on the mountain from the midst of the fire on the day of the assembly”; as if he would say more plainly, “on the day on

³ Lienhard, Joseph T., and Ronnie J. Rombs, eds. 2001. [Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Luther’s Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Luther’s Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized

- 1 All Christians who have been baptized,
Who know the God of heaven,
And in whose daily life is prized
The name of Christ once given:
Consider now what God has done,
The gifts He gives to ev’ryone
Baptized into Christ Jesus!
- 2 You were before your day of birth,
Indeed, from your conception,
Condemned and lost with all the earth,
None good, without exception.
For like your parents’ flesh and blood,
Turned inward from the highest good,
You constantly denied Him.

the priests of the temple for meat, afforded proofs of his second appearance, when (after all sins have been expiated) the priests of the spiritual temple, that is, the church, are to enjoy the flesh, as it were, of the Lord's own grace. The rest will depart from salvation without tasting it. AGAINST MARCION 3.7.7.⁷

Sunday, March 16

- Read **Book 3: Psalm 75** (We give thanks to you, O God.)
- Read **The Torah: Leviticus 19-21**

End Every Day

Pray the Collect for 1st Sunday in Lent

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Personal Prayers

pray **LORD'S PRAYER**

⁷ Lienhard, Joseph T., and Ronnie J. Rombs, eds. 2001. [Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

which you were called and gathered together." And the psalmist says, "I will give you thanks in a great church [*ecclesia*], in the mighty throng I will praise you." CATECHETICAL LECTURE 18.24.⁴

Thursday, March 13

- Read **Book 2: Psalm 72** (Give the King your justice, O God)
- Read **The Torah: Leviticus 10-12**

CYPRIAN: The sons of Aaron also, who set upon the altar a strange fire not commanded by the Lord, were at once blotted out in the sight of the avenging Lord. These examples, you will see, are being followed wherever the tradition which comes from God is despised by lovers of strange doctrine and replaced by teaching of merely human authority. THE UNITY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH 18–19.⁵

Friday, March 14

- Read **Book 3: Psalm 73** (Truly God is good to Israel)
- Read **The Torah: Leviticus 13-15**

⁴ Lienhard, Joseph T., and Ronnie J. Rombs, eds. 2001. [Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

⁵ Lienhard, Joseph T., and Ronnie J. Rombs, eds. 2001. [Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

PATERIUS: Sometimes we know we have done something poorly and avoid including it in our work. But the guilt of it insinuates itself into other acts of ours. For there are some who are subject to carnal uncleanness but reflect on it and return to themselves; they acknowledge the guilt of their depravity. But when they have recovered from their unclean act, they immediately boast of the good of their chastity and swell up with foolish pride. First an unclean act held sway over their bodies; then unclean pride reigns in their minds. What takes hold of them spiritually is like roaming leprosy. It does not wholly leave the garment but changes its place on it. The garment is each of the faithful in the holy church. A roaming and wandering leprosy lays hold of a garment when, by an unreformed fault, guilt takes hold of that soul that seems to be faithful. Let's suppose someone boasts when he possesses riches in this world but then hears from the mouth of a preacher that all these material things are going to perish; he then distributes what he has to the poor. But when he does so, pride swells up in his heart. First he took pride in his possessions; then he took pride in his generosity! This is analogous to the leprosy changing its place on the garment. Another man is given to immoderate and undisciplined expressions of pleasure. Perhaps he is admonished by a preacher. He practices gravity and self-control and tries to restrain himself so that he does not indulge in dissolute pleasure. Often, though, he restrains himself from pleasure, immoderately—more than he should. His soul turns to anger. His sadness gives

rise to motives for wrath and disturbs his mind, constricted as it is with the barb of rage. And so the vice of immoderate pleasure passed through immoderate restraint into the vice of anger. It is like a roaming and wandering leprosy which left the place it had and occupied a place it had not had. EXPOSITION OF THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT, LEVITICUS 11.⁶

Saturday, March 15

- Read **Book 3: Psalm 74** (O God, why do you cast us off forever?)
- Read **The Torah: Leviticus 16-18**

TERTULLIAN: May I offer, moreover, an interpretation of the two goats which were presented on “the great day of atonement”? Do they not also prefigure the two natures of Christ? They were of like size and very similar in appearance, owing to the Lord's identity of aspect. He is not to come in any other form. He had to be recognized by those by whom he was also wounded and pierced. One of these goats was bound with scarlet and driven by the people out of the camp into the wilderness, amid cursing, and spitting, and pulling and piercing, being thus marked with all the signs of the Lord's own passion. The other, by being offered up for sins and given to

⁶ Lienhard, Joseph T., and Ronnie J. Rombs, eds. 2001. [*Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy*](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.