

Annunciation Parish - Scripture Study 11/17/20

—Greeting and Opening Prayer

Any thoughts or questions from scripture passages you have read?

- Other faith questions?

READINGS:

EZ 34:11-12, 15-17

PS 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 (The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want)

1 COR 15:20-26, 28

MT 25:31-46

GOSPEL:

- Reminder that Jesus will come again is how He starts it off
 - And there will be a judgement - sheep from goats - to the kingdom and left out
- He then gives us the Corporal Works of Mercy. Saying that those judged worthy have done these to others and as result done them to him. Do we think of Jesus when we encounter another?
- The accursed have not done these things - and therefore not to him. Do we ignore the presence of Jesus in others? To whom is it easier to do this? Can we push beyond it?
- There is eternal life, and eternal punishment. Why do you think so many do not want to see the potential of this loss of eternal life (and entrance into eternal death)?
- Jesus as the hidden presence in others; Jesus the hidden King of the Universe who we sometimes ignore ... or like those in the Gospel, fail to even recognize.

FIRST READING:

- God speaks of tending the sheep. Notice that they are HIS sheep.
 - This is a common kingly image in scripture related to God. The king as shepherd, ruling seen as connected with guiding, providing and protecting.
- The sheep are scattered and mixed with other shepherd's sheep (who are these other shepherds?), they are scattered also at times without a shepherd at all.
 - Sheep without a shepherd are in bad shape and will fall prey to wolves and not be able to provide for themselves.
- God will do the pasturing Himself. Note that this is accomplished through Jesus the Good Shepherd (who is God), and all those he has appointed shepherds, and all those sheep who assist in bringing the flock together (who are members of his Body and his "hands and feet").
 - How are we called to participate in this kingly action?
- Again the image of judgement - one sheep from another, rams and goats

SECOND READING:

- We see Jesus position as the New Adam. The bringer of life.
 - The ultimate sacrifice of the Good Shepard, the ultimate act of a King who sees to bring His subjects to eternal life.
- He leads them, and incorporates them to himself (and thus they share his mission too).
- He goes first because he is on the first place. He is ruler with all things subjected to him

—Closing Prayer