

Annunciation Parish - Scripture Study 2/16/21

—Greeting and Opening Prayer

Any thoughts or questions from scripture passages you have read?

- Other faith questions?

READINGS:

Gn 9:8-15

Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant)

1 Pt 3:18-22

Mk 1:12-15

GOSPEL:

- The SPIRIT drove Jesus into the desert.
 - It was the initiative of the Spirit that he goes to the desert - not another reason
 - What does it mean that the Spirit *Drove* him?
- It was a desolate place - but he was not left alone, Angels ministered to him
 - How is it the case that the Lord will see we are taken care of in the desert?
 - Do we seek to be filled by God, and trust that we can go into the desert?
 - What is OUR desert? How does this relate to us?
- Jesus takes up the message of John after John's arrest - Jesus becomes both prophet and fulfillment of the prophecy.

FIRST READING:

- God establishes a covenant after the flood.
 - After destruction and cleansing, God makes a promise. How can there be a selective destruction leading to a new commitment with the Lord?
- God's covenant is with all creatures - it is for all times, not revoked.
- God does not destroy all living things for their sins - what does God do to maintain this covenant (especially when we transgress our end of it). God designs a new way to cleanse, and new means of compensation.
 - How does Jesus fulfill this? What are the different ways of cleansing? How are they rolled into one event?
- God remembers covenants forever. God is true to God's word.

SECOND READING:

- Christ suffers ONCE for all the unrighteous.
- His death, brings life into the Spirit. Through death a New Covenant is established (like Noah)
- The waters of the flood and the waters of Baptism are linked. The one prefigures the other.
- It is not a brut cleansing as with the flood, it is not just a removal of external dirt - it is a spiritual cleansing. It is a making of the unrighteous righteous.
- Jesus' resurrection is the Key.
- 40 Days on the Ark, 40 Days of Jesus in the desert.
- We are saved by water (which brings death and life), Jesus saves us by his death and resurrection.

—Closing Prayer