

THE OLD TESTAMENT — Jeremiah 16:14–21

*Following the LORD out of Captivity*

“Therefore behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that it shall no more be said, ‘The LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,’ but, ‘The LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north and from all the lands where He had driven them.’ For I will bring them back into their land which I gave to their fathers.

“Behold, I will send for many fishermen,” says the LORD, “and they shall fish them; and afterward I will send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain and every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks. For My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from My face, nor is their iniquity hidden from My eyes. And first I will repay double for their iniquity and their sin, because they have defiled My land; they have filled My inheritance with the carcasses of their detestable and abominable idols.”

O LORD, my strength and my fortress,  
My refuge in the day of affliction,  
The Gentiles shall come to You  
From the ends of the earth and say,  
“Surely our fathers have inherited lies,  
Worthlessness and unprofitable things.”  
Will a man make gods for himself,  
Which are not gods?

“Therefore behold, I will this once cause them  
to know,  
I will cause them to know  
My hand and My might;  
And they shall know that My name is the  
LORD. <sup>NKJV</sup>

GRADUAL

P: O God, behold our Shield,  
C: **And look upon the face of Your Anointed.**  
P: O LORD God of hosts,  
C: **Hear our prayer.**  
P: The king shall have joy in Your strength,  
C: **And in Your salvation how greatly shall he rejoice!**  
P: Blessed be the Lord God of our fathers,  
C: **Praise Him and highly exalt Him forever.**

THE EPISTLE — 1 Peter 3:8–15

*Following Christ in a Sinful World*

Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling

for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. For

“He who would love life  
And see good days,  
Let him refrain his tongue from evil,  
And his lips from speaking deceit.  
Let him turn away from evil and do good;  
Let him seek peace and pursue it.  
For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous,  
And His ears are open to their prayers;  
But the face of the LORD is against those who  
do evil.”

And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you are blessed. “And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.” But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear. <sup>NKJV</sup>

THE HOLY GOSPEL — St. Luke 5:1–11

*The Calling of the First Disciples*

So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon’s, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.

When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, “Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.”

But Simon answered and said to Him, “Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net.” And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!”

For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men.” So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him. <sup>NKJV</sup>