

No good thing does he withhold
from those who walk uprightly.
¹²O LORD of hosts,
blessèd is the one who trusts in you!

Prophecy

Isaiah 55:10–13

Thus says the Lord God: As the rain comes down, and the snow from
heaven,

And do not return there,

But water the earth,

And make it bring forth and bud,

That it may give seed to the sower

And bread to the eater,

So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;

It shall not return to Me void,

But it shall accomplish what I please,

And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out with joy,

And be led out with peace;

The mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing before you,

And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree,

And instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree;

And it shall be to the Lord for a name,

For an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off," says the Lord Almighty.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. Of such a one I will boast; yet of myself I will not boast, except in my infirmities. For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me to be or hears from me.

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “**My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.**” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Tract

Psalm 60:1–2, 5



O God, you have rejected us, broken our defenses;
you have been angry; oh, restore us.

You have made the land to quake; you have torn it open;
repair its breaches, for it totters.

That your beloved ones may be delivered,
give salvation by your right hand and answer us!

Holy Gospel

Luke 8:4–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.



G Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

At that time: When a great multitude had gathered, and they had come to Him from every city, Jesus spoke by a parable: “**A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the**

birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold.” When He had said these things He cried, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

Then His disciples asked Him, saying, “What does this parable mean?”

And He said, “To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that

‘Seeing they may not see,

And hearing they may not understand.’

Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



P Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Acknowledgments

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