



DAILY BREAD
LECTIONARY DEVOTIONS
PENTECOST 11—YEAR C

INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father
and of the Son +
and of the Holy Spirit.

G: Amen

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 34

**A: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to
be his own.**

L: Taste and see that the LORD is good;

G: blessed are they who take refuge in him.

L: Their eyes of the LORD are on the righteous

G: and his ears are attentive to their cry.

L: The angel of the LORD encamps around those
who fear him,

G: and he delivers them.

L: The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them;

G: he delivers them from all their troubles.

L: The LORD is close to the brokenhearted

G: and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

L: The LORD redeems his servants;

**G: no one who takes refuge in him will be
condemned.**

**A: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to
be his own.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, you reveal your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and kindness. Grant us the full measure of your grace that we may obtain your promises and become partakers of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

READING & MEDITATION *see next page*

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

**A: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

VERSE OF THE DAY

A: Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him." (John 14:23)

BENEDICTION

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

A: Amen

READING AND MEDITATION:

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost: Earthly wealth is meaningless without God. The meaning of life cannot be found in the abundance of earthly possessions but in the abundance of heavenly blessings.

As you study this week, seek to find the connecting theme in all the lessons by using Luther's Four Big Barber Questions to ponder and discuss each individual reading:

1. *What is God saying to me in this lesson?*
2. *For what does this lesson lead me to give thanks?*
3. *What sins does this lesson lead me to confess?*
4. *For what does this lesson lead me to pray?*

THE GOSPEL: LUKE 12:13-21

It is shocking to hear Jesus deny authority over anything, much less something as mundane as an inheritance. But finally, that is the point. Earthly wealth is meaningless. The man called Jesus “teacher” but hadn’t learned the lesson. So Jesus teaches him and us how foolish it is to think that life consists of what we have. By contrast, the life of faith is lived in joyful thanksgiving for both the temporal and eternal blessings that come from above. By faith, this, then, is being rich toward God—a life of thanksgiving for all that he has given us through Jesus.

My takeaways:

FIRST LESSON: ECCLESIASTES 1:2, 2:18-26

The Teacher, King Solomon, had more riches and worldly pleasure than we can comprehend, but experience had taught him that they are meaningless, a chasing after the wind. Yet, in an effort to find meaning in life, so many pursue the “stuff” this sinful world offers. In the end, having the most toys adds up to nothing but an inheritance squandered by fools. Rather, true wealth, true value, true satisfaction only comes from the hand of God. If one seeks to find meaning in life, search no further than the wisdom and knowledge of God.

My takeaways:

SECOND LESSON: COLOSSIANS 3:1-11

The last of three readings in Colossians tells us to set our mind on things above, not on earthly things like the man who built bigger barns or the teacher who chased the wind. Yes, our struggle continues between the old and new Adams. But that old Adam has been buried with Christ, and the new man has been raised with Christ. The result is that our life is hidden with Christ in God. We do not seek worldly wealth but heavenly glory.

My takeaways:

SUPPLEMENTAL SECOND LESSON: JAMES 5:1-11

The trap has been set and sprung for those who seek after wealth. Their very actions accuse and condemn them. The idolatry of greed has seized their hearts, driving them to deception and even to the point of murder in order to satiate their carnal lusts. Here is warning for us as we recognize in ourselves the same epicurean aptitude so prevalent in our hedonistic society. But God be praised, the old Adam has been buried and the new man arisen in Christ. Our hearts no longer find comfort in the temporal, but only in the eternal. The imminent judgment of the Lord no longer threatens us, but comforts us as we patiently endure the temptations of the flesh and wait for the Lord.

My takeaways:

What major theme(s) connect(s) all the lessons?