



DAILY BREAD
LECTIONARY DEVOTIONS
LENT 1 — 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 91

**A: Keep me, keep me
as the apple of your eye.
Hide me, hide me
in the shadow of your wing.**

L: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High

G: will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

L: I will say of the Lord,

**G: “He is my refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust.”**

L: You will not fear the terror of the night,

G: nor the arrow that flies by day.

L: If you make the most high your dwelling,

**G: then no harm will befall you,
no disaster will come near your tent.**

L: For he will command his angels concerning you.

G: to guard you in all your ways;

L: they will lift you up in their hands,

**G: So that you will not strike your foot
against a stone.**

**A: Keep me, keep me
as the apple of your eye.
Hide me, hide me
in the shadow of your wing.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!

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: It is written: “Worship the Lord your God,
and serve him only.” (Matthew 4:10b)**

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:

First Sunday in Lent: Each of us battles with temptation every day, and the results are too obvious to mention. Christ was no stranger to temptation, either. He battled, yet was without sin...for us and for our eternal righteousness. This message of victory gives us confidence as we journey through the wilderness of sin in true repentance.

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 4:1-13

It was the ultimate battle of Good versus Evil: the old evil foe battled the Son of Man while the fate of humankind hung in the balance. It almost seems trite to sensationalize the temptation of Christ in such language. Yet is this not the case? At any point, had Jesus failed to resist temptation, had he bowed, or jumped, or even simply made some bread...all would have been lost. But our Champion won the battle: Jesus the Christ holds the field and the kingdom is ours forever.

My takeaways:

FIRST LESSON: DEUTERONOMY 26:5-10

With a mighty hand the Lord worked victory over evil for his people, bringing them up out of slavery into the Promised Land. No longer slaves to sin, we long for the Promised Land of a new heaven and new earth, the home of God's elect. There is no greater prize than the love and mercy of our God. So we bow before him alone; we worship him only.

My takeaways:

SECOND LESSON: ROMANS 10:8B-13

Christ obeyed his Father in all things. Even in the midst of temptation, he obeyed fully where we could not. When he won the battle over sin for us, there was nothing left for us to do. Christ has fully completed all the requirements of God's Law in our place. Paul tells us in verse 4 that Christ is the fulfillment of the Law for the righteousness of everyone who believes. For us, the obedience of the Law is fulfilled and all that is left is the obedience of Faith: that if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord" and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

My takeaways:

**SUPPLEMENTAL FIRST LESSON:
JOSHUA 7:16-26**

The devastating effects of temptation are seen in the tragic story of Achan. Fresh from spectacular victory at the walls of Jericho, the Lord's anger burned against Israel. For the city was to have been devoted entirely to the Lord as the first spoils of Canaan. Yet some of the spoils were not given to the Lord. A rout in the next battle at the hands of the Aites brought Joshua and the priests to their knees in dust and ashes. Witness the seriousness of the Word of the Lord and the hopelessness of our sin-stained obedience!

My takeaways:

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

**SUPPLEMENTAL SECOND LESSON:
HEBREWS 4:14-16**

How easy it would be for us to cower in fear at the Lord's fierce anger against sin, for we are no better than Achan. We, too, have wandered from the way of the Lord to hoard and hide all that tempts. Yet the promise is sure: Jesus is our High Priest and has made atonement for our sin. We need not fear divine retribution. We can come in repentant confidence relying on the grace of God.

My takeaways: