

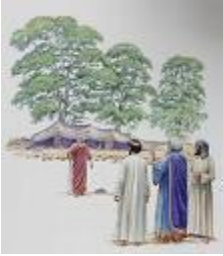
Do not let worry and anxiety detract you from the wisdom of Christ!

Genesis 18:1-10a

Psalm 15:2-5

Colossians 1:24-28

Luke 10: 38-42 .



In the first reading Abraham is visited by three men, welcomes them with great hospitality and requests they rest, eat, and be refreshed. He is later told by one of them that Sarah, elderly woman that she is, will have a son in the coming year.

In the Psalm we are given important guidelines which when followed will never disturb our tranquility. These include being blameless, always being concerned about the truth, never slandering or harming another, keeping our promises, never accepting bribes, and being generous towards others.

In the second reading Paul tells his listeners that he is finding joy in suffering because he understands it complements Christ's suffering and is for the sake of building up the church. Paul is commissioned to preach the full measure of wisdom and the mysteries of Christ, hidden for ages, so that all the faithful may be brought to perfection.

In the Gospel Jesus tells Martha not to be so anxious and worried about nonessential things. He points to the example of Mary who set her priorities correctly in this situation. When the Lord speaks it is time let go of everything else and listen, and that is what Mary did.



**The Father renews our priorities,
Jesus helps us dispel all anxieties;
The Holy Spirit brings us the full measure of discernment.**

There are some very important guidelines in today's readings especially in regards to hospitality. Abraham, not realizing his visitors are angelic, offers them more than just a friendly welcome. The Psalmist reminds us to honor faithful believers who reverence the Lord. Paul, on the other hand, is inviting the Gentiles to join the body of Christ so that its mysteries will make them complete. Finally, Jesus reminds us that in whatever we do it is important to keep our priorities straight and not let anxiety dominate our behavior.

The monks of the medieval desert tell of a novice who didn't make any effort to join in their work efforts when he arrived. Inquiring as to why he was behaving this way, he noted that he was concerned with the study of scripture and prayer and wanted to make sure he was choosing the better part. As the day went along the novice was getting hungry and noticed there was no call for dinner. It was his turn to inquire and was told, " Since you choose only the better part we thought you would not be interested in something so mundane and uninteresting as supper."

There is a time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens.

Ecclesiastes 3:1

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