

February 12, 2017 6th Sunday in Ordinary time

The Lord's Wisdom is beyond all telling!

Sirach 15:15-20 Psalm 119:1-5, 17-18, 33-34 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 Matthew 5:17-37

In the first reading Sirach reminds us that we are to keep the commandments as a matter of loyalty. The Lord is mighty in power, all-seeing, and understands man's every need. However no one is ever given the command to sin or the strength to lie. Spiritual life is as refreshing water but death is as painful as fire.

The Psalmist is clear on how happiness comes about. It flows from blameless ways, following the Lord's teaching, observing the Lord's decrees and precepts, and seeking the Lord with whole heart. He also asks that his eyes be opened so that the wonders of the teachings be clearly seen and insights appreciated.

In the second reading Paul tells the Corinthians that the Wisdom of Christ is for the mature. It is not of this worldly age, and in fact God's Wisdom is mysteriously hidden and not known even to those with great worldly power. Wisdom for the believer is revealed through the Holy Spirit.

In the Gospel Jesus emphasizes that he came to fulfill the Law. In his eyes the greatest are those who teach the Law and obey it themselves. We are not to be angry with our brothers and sisters and if there is a problem then seek reconciliation as soon as possible. We are to be pure in thought, in word, and in deed and always be honest. Every yes or no is to be as truthful as if we were under oath.

The Wisdom of the Father Is the Son Revealed by the Holy Spirit.

Wisdom is not to be confused with worldly knowledge. It is a special gift from the Holy Spirit and gives insights on the wonders of the Lord's teaching and insights on how to observe these precepts. God's Wisdom is immense and its power is mighty. It enables the believer see how good and pure are the Lord's ways and inspires one to follow them wholeheartedly. Even happiness is a by-product of being blameless and walking on Wisdom's paths. We are called to seek Wisdom with all of our hearts.

Come Spirit of Wisdom

*O Lord you are great and powerful, your wisdom beyond all telling.*¹ In your kindness and generosity send down upon me, who trusts in you, the Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen me in following Christ. *On the way to wisdom only you can direct me.*² Guide me into having a gentle heart where wisdom will rest.³ Remind me to keep serious *thought of Wisdom* as that brings *the perfection of prudence.*⁴ *It is much better to acquire wisdom than gold!*⁵

<http://melkaplace.com>

¹ Psalm 147:5

² Proverbs 4:11

³ *The Mind's Long Journey to the Holy Trinity,*

The Ad Monachos of Evagrius Ponticas, J. Driscoll, Liturgical Press, 1991, p.40.

⁴ Wisdom 6:15

⁵ Proverbs 16:16