

Faith Comes by Hearing Bible Study – 2.25.26 (For 3.1.26)

First Reading: Psalm 63:1-8

¹O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

²So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.

³Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.

⁴So I will bless you as long as I live;

in your name I will lift up my hands.

⁵My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food,
and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,

⁶when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

⁷for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.

⁸My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me.

1. In this psalm, David expresses a passionate longing for God. But he starts by telling us the spiritual state he is in. What words does David use to describe his current state?
2. What David is lacking, he looks for in God. What does David mention about God that he finds satisfying? How does David respond to God?
3. How does David's clinging to God uphold or sustain him? What is David helping us understand about God's nature?

Second Reading: Romans 16:17-20

¹⁷I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. ¹⁸For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the

naive. ¹⁹For your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil. ²⁰The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

1. These words are Paul's last urgent plea to the Roman church. Paul calls on them to keep an eye out for those who cause division. He gives some criteria of these persons. What does he mention that helps identify them?
2. The Roman Church has a known reputation. What are they known for? What also does Paul desire for them?

3. What promise does Paul give regarding the future of Satan and the struggle against evil? How should the assurance of Satan's defeat affect the way we handle conflict and division today?

Gospel: John 2:1-12

¹On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. ³When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

⁶Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸And he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the

feast." So they took it. ⁹When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

¹²After this he went down to Capernaum, with his mother and his brothers and his disciples, and they stayed there for a few days.

1. The first recorded miracle of Jesus' ministry in the book of John happens at a wedding. What does the setting of a wedding tell us about Jesus' ministry and His relationship with everyday life?
2. Jesus' mother plays an important role in this miracle. How does she help it happen? What did Jesus mean by "My hour has not yet come" (v. 4), in response to her?
3. Jesus does a profound miracle by turning water to wine. How does the steward's reaction to the wine highlight the quality of what Jesus provided? What insight does that give us to Jesus?