

Annunciation Parish - Scripture Study 3/8/22

—Greeting and Opening Prayer

Any thoughts or questions from scripture passages you have read?

- Other faith questions?

READINGS:

Gn 15:5-12, 17-18

Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14 (Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble)

Phil 3:17—4:1

Lk 9:28b-36

GOSPEL:

- Jesus goes to the mountain - important biblical symbol. Takes only a few with him, why do you think that is?
- He is transfigured as he prays. The white clothes and dazzling appearance are significant.
- Moses and Elijah speak to him (law and prophets) - they spoke of His “exodus,” what’s this?
- Peter and the others were asleep, but wake up now. Do we snooze during times of revelation?
- Peter wants to set up three tents, why? What does he want to do in a deeper sense?
- What does the voice from the cloud remind you of? How does God communicate to you?
- They hear Jesus is the chosen son, Moses and Elijah are gone ... let’s not speak about it, what?
 - What does their coming down from the mountain symbolize?
- What would you have done in that same situation? What ways has Jesus “transfigured” to you?

FIRST READING:

- The time of day is important to know. Abraham places immense faith in the Lord’s words.
 - This is why the faith is an act of righteousness. What does our faith look like in comparison?
- Moses asks for an assurance that he will receive the promised land.
 - The assurance comes again in the word of God, believing in the power of the covenant
- The ritual noted is a contract/covenant being sealed in blood.
 - Jesus will also seal a covenant in His blood, and will offer as promised land more wondrous.
- God appears in smoke and flame, he will lead the Israelites into the desert by smoke and flame, the image of the Divine Liturgy from Revelation also has these images. Presence and seal of God’s covenant.
- Do you see how this covenant and its practices are a model and preparation for the next covenant? Abraham knows somehow that something is required on his part ... do we?

SECOND READING:

- Paul sets himself up as a model (as Jesus did too). Follow in the way he has modeled (as also was modeled but he faithful who made it to the promised land).
- Self-satisfaction and earthly things lead to the continuing barrenness of earth.
- We are citizens of heaven (how therefore shall we conduct ourselves?)
- The glorified body is mentioned - why is it important that it conform to Jesus’?
- How does one “stand firm in the Lord”?

—Closing Prayer