

DEVOTION FOR THE SEVENTH WEEK OF PENTECOST

PSALM 135:1-7;13-14

Hallelujah! Praise the name of the Lord; Praise Him, you servants of the Lord,

You who minister in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God.

Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; sing praise to His name, for that is pleasant.

For the Lord has chosen Jacob to be His own, Israel to be His treasured possession.

I know that the Lord is great, that our Lord is greater than all gods.

The Lord does whatever pleases Him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the sea and all their depths.

He makes clouds rise from the ends of the earth; He sends lightning with the rain and brings out wind from His storehouses.

Your name, O Lord, endures forever, your renown, O Lord through all generations.

For the Lord will vindicate His people and have compassion on His servants.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 18:1-22 A Prophet like Moses

New Testament Reading: Romans 2:1-29 *The law convicts all of sin*

“THE POWER OF POWER”

What is the most powerful force in the universe? How about Black holes! The gravitational force of black holes is so great that nothing can resist its pull. It can swallow up stars and not even light can escape its maw. I certainly wouldn't want to tangle with one, but there is a force more powerful than the darkest black hole and that's God's word. God's word is the power of power. It is the force of creation, the force by which creation came into being. It is the force behind all the forces of nature and every force in the physical universe, including black holes. If God were to withdraw His word, the creation would disintegrate into the primeval darkness from which God called it when He said, “*Let there be light!*”

Jesus is the Word of God. He came in human flesh and earned our salvation through the sacrifice of His cross and by the triumph of His resurrection. When the time comes, God will again send Him to create new heavens and a new earth, the home of righteousness. God will swallow up the black holes of sin and death. Sorrow, sadness and sighing will vanish like the dark at the break of day.

Then we will see the full effect and experience the true power of God's word. We will see His word was never without effect in our lives, but supported us in faith throughout life and accomplished its purpose, by bringing us through death to eternal life. Hear the Lord's powerful promise: “*The word that goes forth from my mouth will not return to me empty, but will achieve what I desire and accomplish the purpose for which I sent it.*”

“LEAD ON, O KING ETERNAL” (Public Domain)

**Lead on, O King Eternal, The day of march has come;
Hence forth in fields of conquest, Thy tents shall be our home.
Thro' days of preparation, Thy grace has made us strong,
And now, O King Eternal, We lift our battle song.**

**Lead on O King Eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And holiness shall whisper, the sweet Amen of peace;
For not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums;
With deeds of love and mercy, Thy heavenly kingdom comes.**

**Lead on, O King Eternal, we follow, not with fears;
For gladness breaks like morning, where'er Thy face appears;
Thy cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.**

PRAYER

Holy God, in the light of your law we see our sin. Bless us with your Holy Spirit that in the light of the holy gospel, we may see our Saviour. Bless us with your Spirit to walk according to your holy law that in our lives, we may give glory to you proclaim the name of Jesus and the salvation that comes to all who receive Him as Saviour and have faith in His Name. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

THE CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

BENEDICTION

Psalm 121:8

**“The Lord will keep you from all harm—He will watch over your life;
The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.”**

