

## DEVOTION for PENTECOST 22 / ALL SAINT'S DAY

### PSALM 16

**Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge. I said to the Lord, "You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing."**

As for the saints who are in the land, they are the glorious ones in whom is all my delight.

**The sorrows of those will increase who run after other gods. I will not pour out their libations of blood or take up their names on my lips.**

Lord, you have assigned me my portion and my cup; you have made my lot secure.

**The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places. Surely I have a delightful inheritance.**

I will praise the Lord who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me.

**I have set the Lord always before me. Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.**

Therefore, my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure.

**Because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.**

You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

*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*

### DEUTERONOMY 33:1-29

*Moses bless the tribes of Israel*

What blessings were promised to the tribes of Joseph?

For what obedience was Levi blessed?

What was the blessing in which all the tribes shared?

### 1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-17

*Thanks to God and unity in Christ*

On what did Paul base his call as an apostle?

For what did Paul always give thanks?

What was the cause of divisions in the Corinthian Church?

### "THE FEAST of ALL SAINTS"

All Saints is an annual opportunity to remember that as vast as the church is on earth, an even larger number of believers are part of the church in heaven. It is a time to be encouraged in faith by the knowledge that even as the Holy Spirit has preserved a countless number before us in faith until life everlasting, He works to accomplish the same in our lives. It is a time to remember that it is not just for this life that we have hope in Christ Jesus. In the bible faith is pictured as a journey to a holy place, a pilgrimage. Led by the guidance of our Shepherd Jesus Christ, we are on a journey into the fullness of God's presence.

We catch a glimpse of the goal of our faith in the book of Revelation. John sees the faithful, delivered from every tribulation of life, resting in the presence of God, under the watchful care of the Good Shepherd Jesus our Saviour. We press on in faith with the destination of eternal life in sight. God who has fulfilled His good work of faith in the lives of those who have gone before us will most certainly accomplish the same in our lives.

All Saints encourages us by holding before us a vision of the promise and goal of our faith. Our text from Revelation is a vision of faith made full. John sees the redeemed from every time and place, every nation, tribe and language standing in the presence of God. He says: "*They are before the throne of God and serve Him in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will shelter them with His presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd and He will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe every tear from their eyes.*" This is the holy place to which our journey leads.

In mercy Jesus bring us to that dear land of rest. You are with God the Father and Spirit ever blest. In Jesus' Name. Amen

**“JERUSALEM the GOLDEN”: Bernard of Cluny (Public Domain)**

**Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blest.**

**The promise of salvation. The place of peace and rest.**

**We know not, oh, we know not, what joys await us there:**

**The radiancy of glory. The bliss beyond compare!**

**Within those walls of Zion, sounds forth the joyful song.**

**As saints join with the angels and all the martyr throng.**

**The Prince is ever with them: The daylight is serene;**

**The city of the blessed shines bright with glorious sheen.**

**Around the throne of David, the saints from care released,  
raise loud their songs of triumph, to celebrate the feast.  
They sing to Christ their leader, who conquered in the fight,  
who won for them forever, their gleaming robes of white.**

**O sweet and blessed country, the home of God’s elect!**

**O sweet and blessed country, that faithful hearts expect!**

**In mercy, Jesus bring us to that dear land of rest,**

**with you and God the Father and Spirit ever blest.**

**PRAYER**

Almighty God, you have promised to be with your Church forever. We praise you for your presence in our worship, in our fellowship and as we pray, study and meditate on your holy word. Your Holy Spirit binds together the church in heaven and the church on earth, as one body of Christ. As you brought the saints in heaven to the completion of their earthly journey by grace, may your grace have the same effect in our lives. Bring us through every trial, test and temptation to stand before you in heaven’s peace when our journey ends, washed clean of every trace sin for the sake of the blood of the Lamb. Bring us to stand fully in your presence with all saints in Christ’s resurrection, when He returns as King and Lord. In Jesus’ 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 Revelation 19:6b-8**

***“Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His bride has made herself ready; it was granted to her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure.”***

**Bible Knowledge Quiz**

When were humans first allowed to eat meat?

What did the saints in heaven wash their robes with to make them white?

In Ephesians Paul says to put on the whole armour of God. What is the sword of the Spirit?

**Answers to last weeks quiz**

Mount Nebo Deuteronomy 32:48-50

Cenchreae Romans 16:1

Sword 1 Samuel 17:51