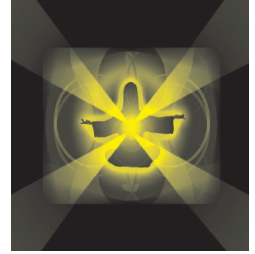


# Word that is Wisdom



## I. A LOOK AT THE THREE READINGS

### FIRST READING (Ws 7:7-11)

<sup>7</sup>Therefore I prayed, and **prudence** was given me;/ I pleaded and the spirit of **Wisdom** came to me. <sup>c</sup> / <sup>8</sup>I preferred her to scepter and throne,<sup>d</sup>/ And deemed riches nothing in comparison with her,<sup>e</sup>/ <sup>9</sup>nor did I liken any priceless gem to her;/

Because all gold, in view of her, is a bit of sand,/ and before her, silver is to be accounted mire./ <sup>10</sup>Beyond health and beauty I loved her,/ And I chose to have her rather than the light, /because her radiance never ceases.<sup>e</sup>/ <sup>11</sup>Yet all good things together came to me with her,<sup>f</sup>/ and countless riches at her hands;

**THE FOCUS: Wisdom**

### COMMENTARY

- Belonging to Deuterocanonical in the Catholic tradition of Scriptures, this belongs to Wisdom Literature. In v. 7, the speaker prays for prudence and it is granted: the Spirit of Wisdom.
- Vv. 8 and 10 show values given up by the speaker just so to keep Wisdom: a) scepter and throne and b) light.
- Riches, gem, gold, silver (vv. 8-9) and even health and comeliness (v. 10) cannot compare with Wisdom.
- This says that when one has wisdom, “all good things and riches” come as along as well.

### MY REFLECTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

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### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 90:12-13,14-15,16-17)

**FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE, O LORD,  
AND WE WILL SING FOR JOY!**

### SECOND READING (Heb 4:12-13)

<sup>12</sup>Indeed, the **word of God** is living and effec-

tive, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart. <sup>13g</sup>No creature is concealed from him, but everything is naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must render an account.

**THE FOCUS: The Word of God**

### COMMENTARY

- What are the characteristics of the Word of God? Living, effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart.
- The word of God is God himself. Why?

### MY REFLECTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

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### GOSPEL READING (Mk10:17-30 or 10:17-27)

#### *Setting and question*

<sup>17i</sup>As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up, knelt down before him, and asked him, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

#### *Jesus’ answer with a commentary on “good”*

<sup>18</sup>Jesus answered him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. <sup>19</sup>You know the commandments: ‘You shall not kill; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; you shall not defraud; honor your father and your mother.’”

#### *The man*

<sup>20</sup>He replied and said to him, “Teacher, all of these I have observed from my youth.”

#### *Jesus*

<sup>21</sup>Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said to him, “You are lacking in one thing. Go, sell what

## 28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) October 14, 2018

you have, and give to [the] poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.”

### **Reaction of the man**

<sup>22</sup>At that statement his face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions.

### **Jesus and his disciples**

<sup>23\*</sup> <sup>k</sup>Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” <sup>24</sup>The disciples were amazed at his words. So Jesus again said to them in reply, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup>It is easier for a camel to pass through [the] eye of [a] needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” <sup>26</sup>They were exceedingly astonished and said among themselves, “Then who can be saved?” <sup>27</sup>Jesus looked at them and said, “For human beings it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God.”

### **Peter’s expression of poverty and Jesus’ assurance of eternal life**

<sup>28</sup>Peter began to say to him, “We have given up everything and followed you.” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said, “Amen, I say to you, there is no one who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands for my sake and for the sake of the gospel <sup>30</sup>who will not receive a hundred times more now in this present age: houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and eternal life in the age to come.

### **THE FOCUS: The Kingdom of God (Eternal Life)**

### **COMMENTARY**

- The Gospel begins with the question of the young man: What must one do to gain eternal life. Naturally this is the main topic of the gospel.
- The gospel has two parts: a) Vv. 17-22 Dialogue between Jesus and the man, and b) Vv. 23-30 Dialogue between Jesus and the disciples.
- In the first part, Jesus does not just emphasize the commandments which the young man does fulfill, but also the fruits of his observing the commandment: to share his wealth with others. Thus the young man goes home sad for he is so attached to his wealth.
- Then in the second part, Jesus affirms the option of the disciples that they have given up

everything just to follow him. And further illustrates the situation that to gain eternal life, one has to give up the beloved here on earth. Yet, the paradox of all is that, the one who gives up all receives a hundredfold not only here, but also in the life to come.

### **MY REFLECTIONS**

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## **II. TYING THE THREE READINGS TOGETHER DEVELOP YOUR HOMILY/SHARING**

The First Reading emphasized the value of Wisdom and ones search for it is important. And truly the wise person knows that the Word of God is living in our midst and so this is worth investing, worth keeping in one’s heart (Second Reading). The Word which Jesus teaches and lives about, is the greatest value of all. One has to make it the number one priority of life and everything will be added unto the follower of God, and one will inherit the Reign of God (Gospel).

### **How to Develop your Homily/Sharing**

One might begin on some materially gifted people who have decided to give up pursuing material things and have decided to preoccupy themselves with helping the poor. e.g. the rich all over the world who have helped the undertaking of Gawad Kalinga, etc.

How has the change of their lifestyle and values been challenged by our three Readings?

Following Jesus is not just about observing proper ethic and thus improving oneself in all aspects including material status. It is also in improving one’s relations with others and thus journeying together towards salvation.

## **III. OUR CONTEXT**

Today is Indigenous Peoples’ Sunday.

In Mindanao, where there are Cultural Communities, people still feel the rise of bombings and bomb threats and kidnappings.

-Prepared by Hansel B. Mapayo, SSP