

**Parishes of Stainton with Hemlington,
Hilton and Brookfield
29th August –
13th Sunday after Trinity**

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT HOME

Thought for the day

"Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger." *James ch 1 v 19.* Shammai, a great rabbi who lived at the time of Jesus, cautioned, "Say little and do much." The American Indians have a proverb, "Listen, or your tongue will keep you deaf."

COLLECT

Almighty God,
who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

The book of Deuteronomy. 4.1–2, 6–9

The people are given reasons for valuing and upholding the Law of God as encapsulated in the Ten Commandments.

Moses spoke to the people; he said:

1 So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you.

2 You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

6 You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!'

7 For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him?

8 And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

9 But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Psalm 15

**R Those who do what is right
will dwell in the presence of the
Lord.**

1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? who may abide upon your holy hill?

2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, who speaks the truth from his heart.

3 There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; he does not heap contempt upon his neighbour.

4 In his sight the wicked are rejected, but he honours those who fear the Lord.

5 He has sworn to do no wrong and does not take back his word.

6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

7 Whoever does these things shall never be overthrown.

The letter of James. Ch 1.17–27

James gives us good and strong advice to be doers of the Word and not hearers only. It sets out for us how we should live our lives as Christians.

17 Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

18 In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

19 You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger;

20 for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.

21 Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

22 But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

23 For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror;

24 for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like.

25 But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not

hearers who forget but doers who act – they will be blessed in their doing.

26 If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless.

27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. Ch 7. 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The disciples were not breaking the Law by eating without washing their hands, but they were breaking with tradition. To the Pharisees, it seems, added traditions had become more important than the spirit and letter of the Law itself

1 When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus,

2 they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them.

3 (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders;

4 and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.)

5 So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?'

6 Jesus said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites,

as it is written, "This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;

7 in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines."

8 You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.'

14 Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand:

15 there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

21 For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come:

fornication, theft, murder,
22 adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly.

23 All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

PRAYERS

Let us pray to God the Father, through God the Son our Lord and Saviour, in the power of the Holy Spirit. ...

Father, the temptation to trust in the traditions and practices of our own place and time are strong and constant. Strengthen our faith and help us to serve you well, clinging to what is right and true.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer
Creator God we pray for peace in the world especially in Afghanistan at this time. We pray for a time when oppression will be overcome by justice; when lies and deceit will be replaced by truth and integrity; and when hatred

and cruelty will be replaced with your Spirit of love and justice.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Gracious God, thank you for our friends and neighbours and the people we meet day by day. We pray for our families asking your protection for those we hold close. Let us be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger and if we quarrel help us quickly to put things right and forgive one another.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Loving God we stand alongside all whose lives are restricted by illness. We remember the chronically ill, those in constant pain, the depressed and the despairing. We especially pray for ...

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Father, as Lord of both time and eternity we commit to your keeping those who have died to this life. May they live in the peace and joy of heaven.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Faithful God we ask for the blessing of your presence in the week ahead. We pray that you will guide us, guard us and keep us safe in all we do and say.

Merciful Father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**

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