

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Certain individuals came down from Judea
and were teaching the brothers,

“Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses,
you cannot be saved.”

And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension
and debate with them,

Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed
to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question
with the Apostles and the elders.

Then the Apostles and the elders,
with the consent of the whole Church,
decided to choose men from among their members
and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas.

They sent Judas called Basabbas, and Silas,
leaders among the brothers,
with the following letter:

“The brothers, both the Apostles and the elders,
to the believers of Gentile origin
in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings.

Since we have heard that certain persons
who have gone out from us,
though with no instructions from us,
have said things to disturb you and have unsettled your minds,

we have decided unanimously to choose representatives
and send them to you,
along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,
who have risked their lives
for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
We have therefore sent Judas and Silas,
who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth.
For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and
to us to impose on you no further burden than these essentials:
that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols,
and from blood and from what is strangled,
and from fornication.
If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well.
Farewell.”

The Word of the Lord!

A reading from the book of Revelation

In the spirit the Angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal.

It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve Angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates.

And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

The Word of the Lord!

Gospel

Jn 14:23-29

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Whoever loves me will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.
Whoever does not love me does not keep my words;
yet the word you hear is not mine
but that of the Father who sent me.

“I have told you this while I am with you.
The Advocate, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you everything
and remind you of all that I told you.
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Not as the world gives do I give it to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.
You heard me tell you,
‘I am going away and I will come back to you.’
If you loved me,
you would rejoice that I am going to the Father;
for the Father is greater than I.
And now I have told you this before it happens,
so that when it happens you may believe.”