

A Reading from the Book of Amos

Thus says the LORD the God of hosts:
Woe to the complacent in Zion!
Lying upon beds of ivory,
 stretched comfortably on their couches,
they eat lambs taken from the flock,
 and calves from the stall!
Improvising to the music of the harp,
 like David, they devise their own accompaniment.
They drink wine from bowls
 and anoint themselves with the best oils;
 yet they are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph!
Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile,
 and their wanton revelry shall be done away with.

The Word of the Lord!

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

But you, man of God, pursue righteousness,
devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness.
Compete well for the faith.
Lay hold of eternal life, to which you were called
when you made the noble confession in the presence
of many witnesses.
I charge you before God, who gives life to all things,
and before Christ Jesus,
who gave testimony under Pontius Pilate
for the noble confession,
to keep the commandment without stain or reproach
until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ
that the blessed and only ruler
will make manifest at the proper time,
the King of kings and Lord of lords,
who alone has immortality, who dwells
in unapproachable light,
and whom no human being has seen or can see.
To him be honor and eternal power. Amen.

The Word of the Lord!