

A reading from the book of Samuel:

In those days, Saul went down to the desert of Ziph with three thousand picked men of Israel, to search for David in the desert of Ziph.

So David and Abishai went among Saul's soldiers by night and found Saul lying asleep within the barricade, with his spear thrust into the ground at his head and Abner and his men sleeping around him.

Abishai whispered to David:

“God has delivered your enemy into your grasp this day. Let me nail him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I will not need a second thrust!”

But David said to Abishai, “Do not harm him, for who can lay hands on the LORD's anointed and remain unpunished?”

So David took the spear and the water jug from their place at Saul's head, and they got away without anyone's seeing or knowing or awakening.

All remained asleep, because the LORD had put them into a deep slumber.

Going across to an opposite slope,
David stood on a remote hilltop
at a great distance from Abner, son of Ner, and the troops.
He said: “Here is the king’s spear.
Let an attendant come over to get it.

The LORD will reward each man for his justice and faithfulness.
Today, though the LORD delivered you into my grasp,
I would not harm the LORD’s anointed.”

The Word of the Lord!

A reading from the first Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Sisters and brothers:

It is written, The first man, Adam, became a living being,
the last Adam a life-giving spirit.

But the spiritual was not first;
rather the natural and then the spiritual.

The first man was from the earth, earthly;
the second man, from heaven.

As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly,
and as is the heavenly one, so also are the heavenly.

Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one,
we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one.

The Word of the Lord!