

**A reading from the Prophet Sirach:**

When a sieve is shaken, the husks appear;  
so do one's faults when one speaks.  
As the test of what the potter molds is in the furnace,  
so in tribulation is the test of the just.

The fruit of a tree shows the care it has had;  
so too does one's speech disclose the bent of one's mind.

Praise no one before he speaks,  
for it is then that people are tested.

**The Word of the Lord!**

## **A reading from the first Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

Sisters and brothers:

When this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility  
and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality,  
then the word that is written shall come about:

Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?

The sting of death is sin,  
and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God who gives us the victory  
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters,  
be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord,  
knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

**The Word of the Lord!**

