Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

5 Thus says the LORD:

"Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD.

⁶ He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness. in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD.

whose trust is the LORD.

8 He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream.

and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought,

for it does not cease to bear fruit."

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. 14And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. 15We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. 16For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in this life

only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Holy Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, 18who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

²⁰And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

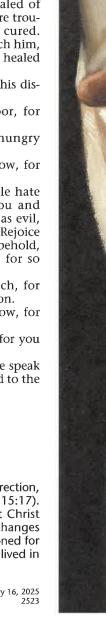
²²"Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! ²³Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

²⁴"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵"Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

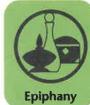
"Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

²⁶"Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets."



But in fact Christ has been raised

I Corinthians 15:20



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About the Cover: Paul boldly states that without Christ's resurrection, "your faith is futile and you are still in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17). There would be no point to a life lived in faith. "But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead" (1 Corinthians 15:20). This changes everything! Christ's bodily resurrection means that His cross atoned for our sins and that we, too, will be raised. It means that our lives lived in