

Old Testament Reading: Amos 6:1–7

- ¹ “Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,
and to those who feel secure on the
mountain of Samaria,
the notable men of the first of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel comes!
- ² Pass over to Calneh, and see,
and from there go to Hamath the great;
then go down to Gath of the Philistines.
Are you better than these kingdoms?
Or is their territory greater than your
territory,
- ³ O you who put far away the day of disaster
and bring near the seat of violence?
- ⁴ “Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and stretch themselves out on their
couches,
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the midst of the stall,
⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the
harp
and like David invent for themselves
instruments of music,
⁶ who drink wine in bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest
oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of
Joseph!
- ⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first of
those who go into exile,
and the revelry of those who stretch
themselves out shall pass away.”

Epistle: 1 Timothy 3:1–13

¹The saying is trustworthy: If anyone
aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a
noble task. ²Therefore an overseer must be
above reproach, the husband of one wife,
sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hos-
pitable, able to teach, ³not a drunkard, not vio-
lent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of
money. ⁴He must manage his own household
well, with all dignity keeping his children sub-
missive, ⁵for if someone does not know how to
manage his own household, how will he care for
God’s church? ⁶He must not be a recent convert,
or he may become puffed up with conceit and
fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷More-
over, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so

that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare
of the devil.

⁸Deacons likewise must be dignified, not dou-
ble-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not
greedy for dishonest gain. ⁹They must hold the
mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.
¹⁰And let them also be tested first; then let
them serve as deacons if they prove themselves
blameless. ¹¹Their wives likewise must be digni-
fied, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful
in all things. ¹²Let deacons each be the husband
of one wife, managing their children and their
own households well. ¹³For those who serve well
as deacons gain a good standing for themselves
and also great confidence in the faith that is in
Christ Jesus.

Holy Gospel: Luke 16:19–31

¹⁹[Jesus said:] “There was a rich man who
was clothed in purple and fine linen and who
feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his
gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, cov-
ered with sores, ²¹who desired to be fed with
what fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover,
even the dogs came and licked his sores. ²²The
poor man died and was carried by the angels
to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and
was buried, ²³and in Hades, being in torment,
he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off
and Lazarus at his side. ²⁴And he called out,
‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send
Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water
and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this
flame.’ ²⁵But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember
that you in your lifetime received your good
things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things;
but now he is comforted here, and you are in
anguish. ²⁶And besides all this, between us and
you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that
those who would pass from here to you may
not be able, and none may cross from there to
us.’ ²⁷And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to
send him to my father’s house— ²⁸for I have
five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest
they also come into this place of torment.’
²⁹But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the
Prophets; let them hear them.’ ³⁰And he said,
‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to
them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹He
said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and
the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if
someone should rise from the dead.’”

About the Cover: In life and in death, Lazarus was comforted by the Word of the Lord, while the rich man sought only comforts that did not last. The rich man, even after death, believed that Lazarus was there to serve him and his family. His family already had everything they needed to find the comfort of God: the Law and the Prophets. We have everything we need today. Whether rich or poor, true comfort is found only in God’s Word made flesh, Jesus, who has indeed risen from the dead.



*The poor man died
and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s side*

Luke 16:22