

Scripture 2/13/22, 6th Sunday after Epiphany

Reading from the Hebrew Bible, commonly referred to as the Old Testament:

Jeremiah 17:5-10

⁵ Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

Gospel Reading:

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, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to touch [Jesus], for power came out from him and healed all of them.

20 Then he looked up at 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 will be filled.

`Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

22 `Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you* on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors 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 will be hungry.

`Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

26 `Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.