

Sonnet 21: Was it the worke of nature or of Art?

Tuesday, February 12, 1594

Morning Prayer: Psa 68; Lev 26; Mar 12

Evening Prayer: Psa 69-70; Num 11; 2Co 8]

Morning Prayer: Psalm 68

P S A L. L X V I I I.

¶ *To him that excelleth. A Psalm or song of Dauid.*

God will arise, & his enemies shalbe scattered: thei also that hate him, shal flee before him.

2 As the smoke vanisheth, *so* shalt thou driue *them* awaie: & as waxe melteth before the fyre, *so* shal the wicked perish at the presence of God.

3 But the righteous shalbe glad, & reioyce before God: yea, thei shal leape for ioye.

4 Sing vnto God, & sing praises vnto his Name: exalt him, that rideth vpon the heauens, in his Name Iah, & reioyce before him.

5 *He is* a Father of the fatherles, and a Iudge of the widowes, *euen* God in his holie habitation.

6 God maketh the solitarie to dwell in families, & deliuereth them that were prisoners in stockes: but the rebellious shal dwell in a drye land.

7 O God, when thou wentest forthe before thy people: when thou wentest through the wildernes, (Selah)

8 The earth shoke, and the heauens dropped at the presence of this God: *euen* Sinai *was moued* at the presence of God, *euen* the God of Israel.

9 Thou, ô God, sendest a gracious raine *vpon* thine inheritance, & thou didest refresh it when it was wearie.

10 Thy Congregation dwelled therein: *for* thou, ô God, hast of thy goodnes prepared it for the poore.

11 The Lorde gaue matter to the women to tel of the great armie.

12 Kings of the armies did flee: thei did flee, and she that remained in the house, deuided the spoile.

13 Thogh ye haue lien among pots, *yet shal ye be as* the wings of a doue that is couered with siluer, and whose fethers *are like* yelowe golde.

14 When the Almighty scatered Kings in it, it was white as the snow in Zalmon.

15 The mountaine of God *is like* the mountaine of Bashan: *it is an* high Mountaine, *as* mount Bashan.

16 Why leape ye, ye high mountaines? as for this Mountaine, God deliteth to dwell in it: yea, the Lord wil dwell in it for euer.

17 The charets of God *are* twentie thousande thousand Angels, and the Lord is among them, *as* in the Sanctuarie of Sinai.

18 Thou art gone vp on high: thou hast led capriuitie captiue, *and* receiued giftes for men: yea, euen the rebellious *hast thou led*, that the Lord God might dwell *there*.

19 Praised be the Lord, *euen* the God of our saluacion, *which* ladeth vs daiely *with benefites*. Selah.

20 This *is* our God, *euen* the God that saueth vs: and to the Lord God *belong* the issues of death.

21 Surely God wil wound the head of his enemies, & the heerie pate of him that walketh in his sinnes.

22 The Lord hathe said, I wil bring *my people* againe from Bashan: I wil bring them againe from the depths of the Sea:

23 That thy foote maie be dipped in blood, & the tongue of thy dogges *in the blood* of the enemies, *euen* in it.

- 24 Thei haue sene, ô God, thy goings, the goings of my God, & my King, *which art* in the Sanctuarie.
- 25 The singers went before, the plaiers of instruments after: in the middes *were* the maides playing with timbrels.
- 26 Praise ye God in the assemblies, & the Lord, *ye that are* of the fountaine of Israel.
- 27 There *was* litle Benjamin *with* their ruler, & the princes of Iudah *with* their assemblie, the princes of Zebulun, & the princes of Naphtali.
- 28 Thy God hathe appointed thy strength: stablish, ô God, that, *which* thou hast wrought in vs,
- 29 Out of thy Temple vpon Ierusalem: & Kings shal bring presents vnto thee.
- 30 Destroye the companie of the spearmen, & multitude of the mightie bulles with the calues of the people, that tread vnder fete pieces of siluer: scater the people that delite in warre.
- 31 *Then* shal the princes come out of Egypt: Ethiopia shal haste to stretch her hands vnto God.
- 32 Sing vnto God, ô ye kingdomes of the earth: sing praise vnto the Lord, (Selah)
- 33 To him that rideth vpon the most high heauens, *which were from* the beginning: beholde he wil send out by his voyce a mightie sounde.
- 34 Ascribe the power to God: *for* his maiestie *is* vpon Israel, & his strength *is* in the cloudes.
- 35 O God, thou art terrible out of thine holie places: the God of Israel is he that giueth strength and power vnto the people: praised *be* God.

Morning Prayer: 1st Lesson: Leviticus 26

CHAP. XXVI.

YE shal make you none idoles nor grauen image, nether reare you vp anie piller, nether shal ye set anie image of stone in your land to bowe downe to it: for I am the Lord your God.

2 Ye shal kepe my Sabbaths, and reuerence my Sanctuarie: I am the Lord.

3 ¶ If ye walke in mine ordinances, and kepe my commandements, and do them,

4 I wil then send you raine in due season, and the land shal yelde her increase, and the trees of the field shall giue their frute.

5 And your threshing shal reache vnto the vintage, and the vintage shal reache vnto sowing time, and you shal eat your bread in plenteousnes, and dwel in your land safely.

6 And I wil send peace in the land, and ye shal slepe and none shal make you afraied: also I wil rid euil beasts out of the land, and the sworde shal not go through your land.

7 Also ye shal chase your enemies, and they shal fall before you vpon the sworde.

8 And fiue of you shall chase an hundreth, and an hundreth of you shall put ten thousand to flight, and your enemies shal fall before you vpon the sworde.

9 For I wil haue respect vnto you, & make you encrease, & multiplie you, and establish my couenant with you.

10 Ye shal eat also olde store, and cary out olde because of the newe.

11 And I wil set my Tabernacle among you, and my soule shal not lothe you.

12 Also I wil walke among you, and I wil be your God, and ye shal be my people.

13 I am the Lord your God which haue broght you out of the land of Egypt, that ye shulde not be their bondmen, and I haue broken the bondes of your yoke, and made you go vpright.

14 ¶ But if ye wil not obey me, nor do all these commandements,

15 And if ye shal despise mine ordinances, ether if your soule abhorre my Lawes, so that ye wil not do all my commandements, but breake my couenant,

16 Then wil I also do this vnto you, I wil appoint ouer you fearefulness, a consumption, and the burning ague to consume the eies, and make the heart heauie, and you shal sowe your sede in vaine: for your enemies shal eat it:

17 And I wil set my face against you, and ye shal fall before your enemies, and they that hate you, shal reigne ouer you, and ye shall flee when none pursueth you.

18 And if ye wil not for these *things* obey me, then wil I punish you seuen times more, according to your sinnes,

19 And I wil breake the pride of your power, and I wil make your heauen as yron, & your earth as brasse:

20 And your strength shalbe spent in vaine: nether shal your land giue her increase, nether shall the trees of the land giue their frute.

21 ¶ And if ye walke stubbernelly against me, and wil not obey me, I wil then bring seuen times mo plagues vpon you, according to your sinnes.

22 I wil also send wilde beastes vpon you, which shal spoile you, and destroy your cattel, and make you fewe in number: so your hye wayes shalbe desolate.

23 Yet if by these ye will not be reformed by me, but walke stubbernelly against me,

24 Then wil I also walke stubbernelly against you, and I wil smite you yet seuen times for your sinnes:

25 And I wil send a sworde vpon you, that shal auenge the quarel of my couenant: and when ye are gathered in your cities, I wil send the pestilence among you, and ye shall be deliuered into the hand of theemie.

26 When I shal breake the staffe of your bread, then ten women shal bake your breade in one ouen, and they shal deliuer your bread againe by weight, and ye shall eat, but not be satisfied.

27 Yet if ye wil not for this obey me, but walke against me stubbernelly,

28 Then wil I walke stubbernelly in *mine* angre against you, & I will also chastice you seuen times *more* according to your sinnes.

29 And ye shal eat the flesh of your sonnes, and the flesh of your daughters shal ye deuoure.

30 I wil also destroye your hie places, and cut away your images, and cast your carkeises vpon the bodies of your idoles, & my soule shal abhorre you.

31 And I wil make your cities desolate, and bring your Sanctuarie vnto noight, and wil not smel the sauour of your swete odoures.

32 I wil also bring the land vnto a wildernes, & your enemies, which dwel therein, shalbe astonished thereat.

33 Also I wil scatter you among the heathen, and wil drawe out a sworde after you, and your land shalbe waste, and your cities shalbe desolate.

34 Then shall the land enioye her Sabbaths, as long as it lieth voyde, and ye shalbe in your enemies land: then shal the land rest, and enioye her Sabbaths.

35 All the daies that it lieth voyde, it shal rest, because it did not rest in your Sabbaths, when ye dwelt vpon it.

36 And vpon them that are left of you, I wil send euen a faintenes into their hearts in the land of their enemies, & the sounde of a

leafe shaken shal chase them, and they shal flee as fleing from a sworde, & they shal fall, no man pursuing them.

37 They shal fall also one vpon an other, as before a sworde, thogh none pursue them, and ye shal not be able to stand before your enemies:

38 And ye shal perish among the heathen, & the land of your enemies shal eat you vp.

39 And they that are left of you, shal pine away for their iniquitie, in your enemies lands, & for the iniquities of their fathers shal they pine away with them also.

40 Then thei shal confesse their iniquitie, and the wickednes of their fathers for their trespas, which they haue trespassed against me, and also because thei haue walked stubbernelly against me.

41 Therefore I wil walke stubbernelly against them, and bring them into the land of their enemies: so then their vncircumcised hearts shalbe humbled, and then they shal willingly beare *the punishment* of their iniquitie.

42 Then I will remembre my couenant with Iaakob, and my couenant also with Izhak, and also my couenant with Abraham wil I remember, and wil remember the land.

43 The land also *in the meane season* shalbe left of them, & shal enioye her Sabbaths while she lieth waste without them, but they shal willingly suffre *the punishment of* their iniquitie, because thei dispised my lawes, & because their soule abhorred mine ordinances.

44 Yet notwithstanding this, when they shal be in the land of their enemies, I wil not cast them away, nether wil I abhorre them, to destroy them vtterly, *nor* to breake my couenant with them: for I am the Lord their God:

45 But I wil remember for them the couenant of olde when I broght them out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the heathen that I might be their God: I am the Lord.

46 These are the ordinances, & the iudgements, & the lawes, which the Lord made betwene him, and the children of Israel in mount Sinai, by the hand of Moses.

Morning Prayer: 2nd Lesson: Mark 12

C H A P. X I I.

ANd he began to speake vnto them in parables, *A certaine* man planted a vineyarde, and compassed it with an hedge, and digged a pit for the winepresse, and buylt a towre in it, and let it out to housbandmen, and went into a strange countrey.

2 And at the time, he sent to the housbandmen a seruant, that he might receiue of the housbandmen of the frute of the vineyard.

3 But they toke him, and bet him, and sent him away emptie.

4 And againe, he sent vnto them another seruant, and at him they cast stones, and brake his head, and sent him away shamefully handled.

5 And againe he sent another, & him they slewe, and manie other, beating some, and killing some.

6 Yet had he one sonne, his derebeloued: him also he sent the last vnto them, saying, They will reuerence my sonne.

7 But the housbandmen said among themselues, This is the heire: come, let vs kil him, and the inheritance shalbe ours.

8 So they toke him, and killed him, and cast him out of the vineyarde.

9 What shal then the Lord of the vineyarde do? He wil come and destroye these housband men, and giue the vineyarde to others.

10 Haue ye not red so muche as this Scripture? The stone which the buylders did refuse, is made the head of the corner.

11 This was done of the Lord, & it is marueilous in our eyes.

12 Then they went about to take him, but they feared the people: for they perceiued that he spake that parable against them: therefore they left him, & went their way.

13 ¶ And they sent vnto him certeine of the Pharises, and of the Herodians that they might take him in *his* talke.

14 And when they came, they said vnto him, Master, we knowe that thou art true, & carest for no man: for thou considerest not the persone of men, but teachest the way of God truely, Is it lawful to giue tribute to Cesar, or not?

15 Shulde we giue it, or shulde we not giue it? But he knewe their hypocrisie, and said vnto them, Why tempt ye me? Bring me a penie, that I may se it.

16 So they brought it, and he said vnto them, Whose is this image and superscription? And they said vnto him, Cesars.

17 Then Iesus answered, & said vnto them, Giue to Cesar the things that are Cesars, and to God, those that are Gods: and they marueiled at him.

18 ¶ Then came the Sadduces vnto him, (which say, there is no resurrection) and they asked him, saying,

19 Master, Moses wrote vnto vs, If any mans brother dye, and leaue *his* wife, and leaue no children, that his brother shulde take his wife, and raise vp sede vnto his brother.

20 There were seuen brethren, and the first toke a wife, and when he dyed, left no yssue.

21 Then the seconde toke her, and he dyed, neither did he yet leaue yssue, & the thirde likewise.

22 So seuen had her, and left no yssue: last of all the wife dyed also.

23 In the resurrection then, when they shal rise againe, whose wife shal she be of them? for seuen had her to wife?

24 Then Iesus answered, & said vnto them, Are ye not therefore deceiued, because ye knowe not the Scriptures, neither the power of God?

25 For when they shal rise againe from the dead, nether men marry, nor wiues are married, but are as the Angels which are in heauen.

26 And as touching the dead, that they shal rise againe, haue ye not red in the booke of Moses, howe in the bush God spake vnto him, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Iacob?

27 God is not the God of the dead, but the God of the liuing. Ye are therefore greatly deceiued.

28 ¶ Then came one of the Scribes that had heard them disputing together, & perceiuing that he had answered them wel, he asked him, Which is the first commandement of all?

29 Iesus answered him, The first of all the commandements *is*, Heare, Israel, The Lord our God is the onelie Lord.

30 Thou shalt therefore loue the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soule, and with all thy minde, & with all thy strength: this is the first commandement.

31 And the seconde is like, that is, Thou shalt loue thy neighbour as thy self. There is none other commandement greater then these.

32 Then that Scribe said vnto him, Wel, Master, thou hast said the trueth, that there is one God, and that there is none but he,

33 And to loue him with all the heart, and with all the vnderstanding, & with all the soule, and with all the strength, and to loue *his* neighbour as him self, is more then all whole burnt offrings and sacrifices.

34 Then, when Iesus saw that he answered discretely, he said vnto him, Thou art not farre from the kingdome of God. And no man after that durst aske him any question.

35 ¶ And Iesus answered & said teaching in the Temple, How say the Scribes that Christ is the sonne of Daud?

36 For Daud him self said by the holie Gost, The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, til I make thine enemies thy fotestole.

37 Then Daud him self calleth him Lord: by what meanes is he then his sonne? and muche people heard him gladly.

38 Moreouer he said vnto them in his doctrine, Beware of the Scribes which loue to go in long robes, and *loue* salutacions in the markets,

39 And the chief seates in the Synagogues, and the first rounes at feastes,

40 Which deuoure widowes houses, euen vnder a coulour of long prayers. These shal receiue the greater damnation.

41 And as Iesus sate ouer against the tresurie, he beheld how the people cast money into the tresurie, and many richemen cast in muche.

42 And there came a certeine poore widowe, and she threw in two mites, which make a quadrin.

43 Then he called vnto him his disciples, and said vnto them, Verely I say vnto you, that this poore widowe hath cast more in, then all they which haue cast into the tresurie.

44 For they all did cast in of their superfluitie: but she of her pouertie did cast in all that she had, *euen* all her liuing.

Evening Prayer: Psalms 69-70

P S A L. L X I X.

¶ *To him that excelleth vpon Shoshannim. A Psalm of Daud.*

SAue me, ô God: for the waters are entred euen to *my* soule.

2 I sticke fast in the depe myre, where no staie *is*: I am come into depe waters, and the streames runne ouer me.

3 I am wearie of crying: my throte is drye: mine eyes faile, whiles I waite for my God.

4 They that hate me without a cause, are mo then the heeres of mine heade: thei that wolde destroy me, *and* are mine enemies falsely, are mightie, so that I restored that which I toke not.

5 O God, thou knowest my foolishnes, & my fautes are not hid from thee.

6 Let not them that trust in thee, ô Lord God of hostes, be ashamed for me: let not those that seke thee, be confounded through me, ô God of Israel.

7 For thy sake haue I suffred reprove: shame hath couered my face.

8 I am become a stranger vnto my brethren, euen an aliant vnto my mothers sonnes.

9 For the zeale of thine house hath eaten me, and the rebukes of them that rebuked thee, are fallen vpon me.

10 I wept and my soule fasted, but that was to my reprove.

11 I put on a sacke also: and I became a prouerbe vnto them.

12 They that sate in the gate, spake of me, and the drunkards sang *of me*.

13 But Lord, *I make* my praier vnto thee in an acceptable time, *euen* in the multitude of thy mercie: ô God, heare me in the trueth of thy saluacion.

14 Deliuier me out of the myre, that I sinke not: let me be deliuered from them that hate me, and out of the depe waters.

15 Let not the waterflood drowne mee, nether let the depe swallowe me vp: and let not the pit shut her mouth vpon me.

- 16 Heare me, ô Lord, for thy louing kindenes is good: turne vnto me according to the multitude of thy tendre mercies.
- 17 And hide not thy face from thy seruant, for I am in trouble: make hast & heare me.
- 18 Drawe nere vnto my soule & redeme it: deliuer me because of mine enemies.
- 19 Thou hast knowen my reprove and my shame, & my dishonour: all mine aduersaries *are* before thee.
- 20 Rebuke hathe broken mine heart, and I am ful of heauines, and I loked *for some* to haue pitie *on me*, but there was none: and for comforters, but I founde none.
- 21 For thei gaue me gall in my meat, and in my thirst thei gaue me vinegre to drinke.
- 22 Let their table be a snare before them, and their prosperitie *their* ruine.
- 23 Let their eyes be blinded that thei se not: and make their loynes alwaie to tremble.
- 24 Powre out thine angre vpon them, & let thy wrathful displeasure take them.
- 25 Let their habitacion be voide, & let none dwell in their tentes.
- 26 For thei persecute him, whome thou hast smiten: and they adde vnto the sorowe of them, whome thou hast wounded.
- 27 Lay iniquitie vpon their iniquitie, & let them not come into thy righteousnes.
- 28 Let them be put out of the boke of life, nether let them be writen with the righteous.
- 29 When I am poore & in heauines, thine helpe, ô God, shal exalt me.
- 30 I will praise the Name of God with a song, & magnifie him with thankesgiuing.

31 *This* also shal please the Lord better then a yong bullocke, that hathe hornes and hoofes.

32 The humble shal se *this*, & thei that seke God, shalbe glad, & your heart shal liue.

33 For the Lord heareth the poore, and despiseth not his prisoners.

34 Let heauen & earth praise him: the seas and all that moueth in them.

35 For God wil saue Zion, and buylde the cities of Iudah, that men maie dwell there and haue it in possession.

36 The sede also of his seruants shal inherit it: and thei that loue his Name, shal dwell therein.

P S A L. L X X.

¶ *To him that excelleth. A Psalme of Dauid to put in remembrance.*

O God, *haste thee* to deliuer mee: make haste to helpe me, ô Lord.

2 Let them be confounded & put to shame, that seke my soule: let them be turned backwarde and put to rebuke, that desire mine hurt.

3 Let them be turned backe for a rewarde of their shame, which said, Aha, aha.

4 But let all those that seke thee, be ioyfull & glad in thee, and let all that loue thy saluacion, saie alwaies, God be praised.

5 Now I am poore and nedie: ô God, make haste to me: thou art mine helper, and my deliuerer: ô Lord, make no tarying.

Evening Prayer: 1st Lesson: Numbers 11

C H A P. X I.

When the people became murmurers, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it, therefore his wrath was kindled, and the fire of the Lorde burnt among them, and consumed the vtmost parte of the hoste.

2 Then the people cryed vnto Moses: and when Moses prayed vnto the Lorde, the fire was quenched.

3 And he called the name of that place Taberah, because the fire of the Lord burnt among them.

4 ¶ And a number of people that was amog them, fel a lusting, and turned away, and the children of Israel also wept, and said, Who shal giue vs flesh to eat?

5 We remember the fish which we did eat in Egypt for naught, the cucumbers, & the pepons, and the lekes, and the onions, and the garleke.

6 But now our soule is dried away, we can se nothing but this MAN.

7 (The MAN also was as coriander sede, & his coulour like the coulour of bdelium.

8 The people went about and gathered it, and ground it in milles, or bet it in morters, and baked it in a cauldron, and made cakes of it, and the taste of it was like vnto the taste of fresh oyle.

9 And when the dewe fel downe vpon the hoste in the night, the MAN fell with it)

10 ¶ Then Moses heard the people wepe throughout their families, euerie man in the dore of his tente, and the wrath of the Lord was grieuously kindled: also Moses was grieued.

11 And Moses said vnto the Lord, Wherefore hast thou vexed thy seruant? and why haue I not founde fauour in thy sight, seing thou hast put the charge of all this people vpon me?

12 Haue I conceiued all this people? or haue I begotten them? that thou shouldest say vnto me, Cary them in thy bosome (as a nurse

bearth the sucking childe) vnto the land, for the which thou
swarest vnto their fathers?

13 Where shulde I haue flesh to giue vnto all this people? for they
wepe vnto me, saying, Giue vs flesh that we may eat.

14 I am not able to beare all this people alone, for it is to heaue
for me.

15 Therefore if thou deale thus with me, I pray thee, if I haue
founde fauour in thy sight, kil me, that I beholde not my miserie.

16 ¶ Then the Lord said vnto Moses, Gather vnto me seuentie men
of the Elders of Israel, whome thou knowest, that they are the
Elders of the people, & gouerners ouer them, & bring them vnto
the Tabernacle of the Congregation, and let them stand there with
thee,

17 And I will come downe, & talke with thee there, and take of
the Spirit, which is vpon thee, and put vpon them, and they shal
beare the burthen of the people with thee: so thou shalt not beare it
alone.

18 Furthermore thou shalt say vnto the people, Be sanctified
against tomorowe, and ye shal eat flesh: for you haue wept in the
eares of the Lord, saying, Who shal giue vs flesh to eat? For we
were better in Egypt: therefore the Lord will giue you flesh, and ye
shal eat.

19 Ye shal not eat one day nor two daies, nor fiue daies, nether
ten daies, nor twenty daies,

20 But a whole moneth, vntil it come out at your nostrels, and be
lothesome vnto you, because ye haue contemned the Lord, which
is among you, and haue wept before him, saying, Why came we
hither out of Egypt?

21 And Moses said, Six hundred thousand fotemen *are there* of
the people, among whome I am: & thou saiest, I wil giue them
flesh, that they may eat a moneth long.

22 Shall the shepe and the beues be slaine for them, to finde them? ether shal all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them to suffise them?

23 And the Lord sayd vnto Moses, Is the Lords hand shortened? thou shalt se now whether my worde shal come to passe vnto thee, or no.

24 ¶ So Moses went out, and tolde the people the wordes of the Lord, and gathered seuentie men of the Elders of the people, and set them round about the Tabernacle.

25 Then the Lord came downe in a cloude, and spake vnto him, and toke of the Spirit, that was vpon him, and put it vpon the seuentie Ancient men: and when the Spirit rested vpon them, then they prophecied, and did not cease.

26 But there remained two of the men in the hoste: the name of the one *was* Eldad, and the name of the other Medad, and the Spirit rested vpon them, (for they were of them that were written, and went not out vnto the Tabernacle) & they prophecied in the hoste.

27 Then there ran a yong man, and tolde Moses, and said, Eldad and Medad do prophecie in the hoste.

28 And Ioshua the sonne of Nun the seruant of Moses one of his yong men answered and said, My lord Moses, forbid them.

29 But Moses said vnto him, Enuyest thou for my sake? yea, wolde God that all the Lords people *were* Prophetes, & that the Lord wolde put his Spirit vpon them.

30 And Moses returned into the hoste, he and the Elders of Israel.

31 Then there went forthe a winde from the Lord, and broght quailles from the Sea, and let them fall vpon the campe, a daies iourney on this side, & a daies iourney on the other side, round about the hoste, and *they were* about two cubites aboue the earth.

32 Then the people arose, all that day, and all the night, and all the next day, and gathered the quailles: he that gathered the least,

gathered ten Homers ful, and they spred them abroad for their vse round about the hoste.

33 While the flesh was yet betwene their tethe, before it was chewed, euen the wrath of the Lord was kindled against the people, and the Lord smote the people with an exceeding great plague.

34 So the name of the place was called, Kibroth-hattaauah: for there they buryed the people that fel a lusting.

35 From Kibroth-hattaauah the people toke their iourney to Hazeroth, and abode at Hazeroth.

Evening Prayer: 2nd Lesson: 2 Corinthians 8

C H A P. V I I I.

WE do you also to wit, brethren, of the grace of God bestowed vpon the Churches of Macedonia,

2 Because in great tryall of affliction their ioye abounded, and their moste extreme pouertie abunded vnto their riche liberalitie.

3 For to *their* power (I beare record) yea, & beyonde their power, they were willing,

4 And praied vs with great instance that we wolde receiue the grace, and felowship of the ministring which is towarde the Saints.

5 And *this they did*, not as we looked for: but gaue their owne selues, first to the Lord, and *after* vnto vs by the wil of God,

6 That we shulde exhort Titus, that as he had begonne, so he wolde also accomplish the same grace among you also.

7 Therefore, as ye abunde in euerie thing, in faith and worde, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your loue towards vs, *euen so se* that ye abunde in this grace also.

8 This say I not by commandement, but because of the diligence of others: therefore proue I the naturalnes of your loue.

9 For ye knowe the grace of our Lord Iesus Christ, that he being riche, for your sakes became poore, that ye through his pouertie might be made riche.

10 And I shewe *my* minde herein: for this is expedient for you, which haue begonne not to doe onely, but also to wil, a yere a go.

11 Now therefore performe to doe it also, that as *there was* a readines to wil, euen so ye maye performe it of that which ye haue.

12 For if there be first a willing minde, it is accepted according to that a man hathe, & not according to that he hathe not.

13 Nether *is it* that other men should be eased and you grieved.

14 But vpon like condicion, at this time your abundance *supplieth* their lacke, that also their abundance may be for your lacke, that there may be equalitie:

15 As it is written, Hee that *gathered* muche, had nothing ouer, and he that *gathered* litle, had not the lesse.

16 And thanks be vnto God, which hathe put in the heart of Titus the same care for you.

17 Because he accepted the exhortacion, yea, he was so careful that of his owne accorde he went vnto you.

18 And we haue sent also with him the brother, whose praise *is* in the Gospel throughout al the Churches.

19 (And not so onely, but is also chosen of the Churches to be a felowe in our iourney concerning this grace that is ministred by vs vnto the glorie of the same Lord, and *declaration* of your prompt minde)

20 Auoyding this, that no man shulde blame vs in this abundance that is ministred by vs,

21 Prouiding for honest things, not onely before the Lord, but also before men.

22 And we haue sent with them our brother, whome we haue oft times proued to be diligent in manie things, but now muche more diligent, for the great confidence, which I *haue* in you.

23 Whether *anie do enquire* of Titus, *he is* my felowe and helper to you warde: or of our brethren, they are messengers of the Churches, and the glorie of Christ.

24 Wherefore shewe towarde them, & before the Churches the profe of your loue, and of the reioycing that we haue of you.

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