

Decode the Scripture verse.

Job 1:21 ESV



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The Third to Last Sunday of the Church Year — Trinity XXV

Psalm 31:1–2a, 5, 24; antiphon: Psalm 31:9a, 15a, 17a

Almighty God, we implore You, show Your mercy to Your humble servants that we, who put no trust in our own merits, may not be dealt with after the severity of Your judgment but according to Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

MONDAY — THE PSALM

Read Psalm 14

Foolishness can be defined as a denial of God (verse 1). Describe the fool who has rejected God. (verses 1–3)

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 21 (pages 57–57) and question 75 (page 96)

Optional Reading & Discussion Question

Psalm 102:1–13

What is the psalmist experiencing, and where does he look for help?

TUESDAY — THE OLD TESTAMENT

Read Exodus 32:1–20

What major Exodus event took place in this reading? Retell it as best as you can using your own words. Did you miss anything?

Optional Reading & Discussion Question

Job 14:1–6

Who is Job describing?

WEDNESDAY — THE GOSPEL

Read Matthew 24:15–28

What historical event is Jesus foretelling in this lesson? Does this mean that Jesus' words, here, are no longer relevant?

What will Jesus' second coming on the Last Day be like?

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 149 (pages 142–145)

Optional Reading & Discussion Question

Luke 17:20–30

From this lesson and from the rest of Scripture, which is the more important sense for a Christian: the sense of sight or the sense of hearing?

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 170 (page 158)

THURSDAY — THE EPISTLE

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

Listen to how a Church Father describes why St. Paul speaks of death as falling asleep.

“When a Christian dies, it is nothing other than a sleep, for which reason he must also emerge from sleep and live, as Christ lives. For since the debt of sin is removed, the punishment of sin, which is death, is removed also. And in short, it is our glory and consolation as Christians that we will not simply fall asleep and rise again, but we will also be taken with Christ to eternal life. But our dying and falling asleep must take place in the knowledge of faith and God's truth, or nothing will come of it. If I depart this world in the knowledge of God's Word, I fall asleep in Christ. Then Christ will take me up on His divine back and bring me to the heavenly inn. But if a tyrant, an enemy of God's truth, a persecutor of the Gospel, an ungodly and evil [person] dies, he does not fall asleep in Christ, for which reason Christ does not take him with Him, but hands him over to his god of lies, the devil, whom he trusted, believed, followed, and served.” (Spangenberg, *The Christian Year of Grace*. pg. 360).

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 187 (pages 168–169)

CATECHISM CONNECTION

What is the connection of the First Commandment with Explanation and the Third to the Last Sunday of the Church Year?