

The Old Testament: Isaiah 1:10-18

Hear the word of the LORD,
you rulers of Sodom!
Listen to the teaching of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!
What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?
says the LORD;
I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams
and the fat of fed beasts;
I do not delight in the blood of bulls,
or of lambs, or of goats.
When you come to appear before me,
who asked this from your hand?
Trample my courts no more;
bringing offerings is futile;
incense is an abomination to me.
New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation--
I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.
Your new moons and your appointed festivals
my soul hates;
they have become a burden to me,
I am weary of bearing them.
When you stretch out your hands,
I will hide my eyes from you;
even though you make many prayers,
I will not listen;
your hands are full of blood.
Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove the evil of your doings
from before my eyes;
cease to do evil,
learn to do good;
seek justice,
rescue the oppressed,
defend the orphan,
plead for the widow.
Come now, let us argue it out,
says the LORD:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be like snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool. - *The Word of the Lord*

The Epistle: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.
We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sis-
ters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and
the love of everyone of you for one another is increasing. There-
fore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for
your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the
afflictions that you are enduring.
To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will
make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every
good resolve and work of faith, so that the name of our Lord Je-
sus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the
grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. - *The Word of the
Lord*

The Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was
there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was
rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the
crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran
ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was
going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he
looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down;
for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was
happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and
said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zac-
chaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my pos-
sessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded an-
yone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus
said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because
he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek
out and to save the lost."