

# Psalm 14

**For the director of music. Of David.**

<sup>1</sup> The fool<sup>Ⓜ</sup> says in his heart,  
"There is no God."

They are corrupt, their deeds are vile;  
there is no one who does good.

<sup>2</sup> The LORD looks down from heaven  
on all mankind  
to see if there are any who understand,  
any who seek God.

<sup>3</sup> All have turned away, all have become corrupt;  
there is no one who does good,  
not even one.

<sup>4</sup> Do all these evildoers know nothing?

They devour my people as though eating bread;  
they never call on the LORD.

<sup>5</sup> But there they are, overwhelmed with dread,  
for God is present in the company of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup> You evildoers frustrate the plans of the poor,  
but the LORD is their refuge.

<sup>7</sup> Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!  
When the LORD restores his people,  
let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!

## Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 29:11-19

<sup>11</sup> For you this whole vision is nothing but words sealed in a scroll. And if you give the scroll to someone who can read, and say, "Read this, please," they will answer, "I can't; it is sealed." <sup>12</sup> Or if you give the scroll to someone who cannot read, and say, "Read this, please," they will answer, "I don't know how to read."

<sup>13</sup> The Lord says:

"These people come near to me with their mouth  
and honor me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me.  
Their worship of me  
is based on merely human rules they have been taught.<sup>(b)</sup>  
**14** Therefore once more I will astound these people  
with wonder upon wonder;  
the wisdom of the wise will perish,  
the intelligence of the intelligent will vanish.”  
**15** Woe to those who go to great depths  
to hide their plans from the LORD,  
who do their work in darkness and think,  
“Who sees us? Who will know?”  
**16** You turn things upside down,  
as if the potter were thought to be like the clay!  
Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it,  
“You did not make me”?  
Can the pot say to the potter,  
“You know nothing”?  
**17** In a very short time, will not Lebanon be turned into a fertile field  
and the fertile field seem like a forest?  
**18** In that day the deaf will hear the words of the scroll,  
and out of gloom and darkness  
the eyes of the blind will see.  
**19** Once more the humble will rejoice in the LORD;  
the needy will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

## Epistle Reading – Ephesians 5:22-33

### Instructions for Christian Households

**22** Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. **23** For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. **24** Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

**25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her **26** to make her holy, cleansing<sup>(b)</sup> her by the washing with water through the word, **27** and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. **28** In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. **29** After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the

church—<sup>30</sup> for we are members of his body.<sup>31</sup> “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”<sup>32</sup> This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.<sup>33</sup> However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

## Gospel Reading - Mark 7:1-13

### That Which Defiles

**7** The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus<sup>2</sup> and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed.<sup>3</sup> (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders.<sup>4</sup> When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.<sup>5</sup>)

<sup>5</sup> So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?”

<sup>6</sup> He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written:

“These people honor me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me.

<sup>7</sup> They worship me in vain;  
their teachings are merely human rules.<sup>8</sup>”

<sup>8</sup> You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.”

<sup>9</sup> And he continued, “You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe<sup>9</sup> your own traditions! <sup>10</sup> For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and mother,’<sup>10</sup> and, ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.’<sup>11</sup> But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is Corban (that is, devoted to God)—<sup>12</sup> then you no longer let them do anything for their father or mother. <sup>13</sup> Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.”