

■ 74th Sharing of the Word

● First Reading: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

King Saul goes to the wilderness of Ziph to kill David. This motive stems from the people's praise, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands" (1 Samuel 18:7), leading to jealousy of the admiration toward David and fear and hostility that his throne might be taken. David and Abishai (a warrior and son of David's sister) sneak into Saul's camp, finding the king and Abner (the king's bodyguard) asleep. Abishai suggests to David that this is a chance to kill the king with a single blow, but David rebukes him, saying, "Do not destroy him, for who can lay a hand on the Lord's anointed and be guiltless?" This is because: ① According to the law, opposing the one appointed by God was considered a sin (Exodus 22:28); ② Due to his faith, he entrusted the matter to God (1 Samuel 26:10): "Vengeance is mine; I will repay" (Romans 12:19). David takes Saul's spear and water jug as evidence that he had the opportunity to kill the king. This was possible because God had put them into a deep sleep. David stands on the hilltop with the king's spear, calls for reconciliation to the king's camp, and says that one is rewarded by God for righteous and faithful actions.

【Ziph】

A secluded area in the hill country southeast of Hebron, south of Jerusalem (1 Samuel 23:14?15). David hides in the wilderness of Ziph to escape from King Saul but is betrayed by the inhabitants of Ziph (1 Samuel 23:19). Hebron served as the stage for David's life on the run and was the first city he governed after becoming king (2 Samuel 2:1-4), being a stronghold of the tribe of Judah. After King Solomon's death, the kingdom was divided into the northern and southern kingdoms of Judah.

● Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Paul says, "The first man" refers to Adam: "The Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground... and the man became a living being" (Genesis 2:7), indicating that the body has life. "The last Adam" refers to Jesus, who becomes a "spiritual body" rather than living in the flesh. The body first has a physical form like Adam's and then is transformed into a spiritual body like the resurrected Jesus. The "first man," Adam, was made from the earth and belonged to the earth (the physical body has temporary life) and brought death. The "second man" refers to Jesus, who came from heaven, redeemed sin, and came to give eternal life to humanity. The form of a person changes depending on which they belong to. Those made from the earth will eventually face death, while those who belong to heaven will be resurrected like Jesus and granted eternal life. We now have Adam's physical body and will eventually face death, but those who "believe" in Jesus' resurrection are promised eternal life and a glorious body (spiritual body) (Philippians 3:21).

● Gospel Reading: Luke 6:27-38

Jesus' teachings speak of selfless love and forgiveness, calling for the practice of attitudes and actions befitting children of God.

1. Love your enemies and do good to those who hate you.

Prescription: Without harboring hatred, actively love and care for your neighbors with the spirit of "forgetting oneself and rejoicing in others" and "unity of self and others" (Matthew 22:37-40).

2. ① If someone strikes you on one cheek, offer the other also. ② Pray for those who curse you and pray for those who mistreat you.

Prescription: If harmed, retaliating continues the cycle of anger. Encourage the other to reflect, try changing the environment, and by quickly forgetting the resentment, time will bring resolution.

3. Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back.

Prescription: Give generously to those who ask, remembering charity. Everything is borrowed from God; when

returning to heaven, we leave everything but our soul behind, so do not cling to material things.

4. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Prescription: This is the "Golden Rule" (Matthew 22:37), fundamental in interactions with others. Reflect on "hospitality" and "customer orientation."

5. ① Loving those who love you, ② doing good to those who do good to you, ③ lending to those from whom you expect repayment sinners also do these things.

Prescription: Even if you do good to those who have been good to you, you cannot expect a reward from God. Reflect on how God demonstrated selfless love by giving His only Son on the cross.

6. Loving your enemies and doing good to others will bring you rewards.

Prescription: God sends rain on both the righteous and the unrighteous without discrimination. By being generous, you will be rewarded by God. Practice actions that lead even those you dislike to say "thank you."

7. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Prescription: Emulate the Lord's compassion by facing and accompanying others in their suffering and sorrow.

8. ① Do not judge, and you will not be judged. ② Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. ③ Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

Prescription: "As you sow, so shall you reap." What you do comes back to you. Reflect daily on your words and actions, avoiding arrogance, impulsiveness, and selfishness. Consider the saying, "Kindness to others is kindness to oneself."

9. Give, and it will be given to you.

Prescription: Those who give will receive rewards from God. In your daily walk, keep in mind the blessings from God and be grateful.

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