

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF HABAKKUK 2:9-14

⁹ 'Alas for you who get evil gain for your house,
setting your nest on high to be safe from the reach of harm!'

¹⁰ You have devised shame for your house by cutting off
many peoples;
you have forfeited your life.

¹¹ The very stones will cry out from the wall,
and the plaster will respond from the woodwork.

¹² 'Alas for you who build a town by bloodshed,
and found a city on iniquity!'

¹³ Is it not from the Lord of hosts
that peoples labour only to feed the flames,
and nations weary themselves for nothing?

¹⁴ But the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the
glory of the Lord,
as the waters cover the sea.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Psalm: 138 (1-9 SAID TOGETHER)

- ¹ I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- ² I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your Name, *
because of your love and faithfulness;
- ³ For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.
- ⁴ When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.
- ⁵ All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
- ⁶ They will sing of the ways of the Lord, *
that great is the glory of the Lord.
- ⁷ Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.
- ⁸ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.
- ⁹ The Lord will make good his purpose for me; *
O Lord, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

The Gospel According to Mark (8:22-26)

²²They came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. ²³He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, 'Can you see anything?' ²⁴And the man looked up and said, 'I can see people, but they look like trees, walking.' ²⁵Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. ²⁶Then he sent him away to his home, saying, 'Do not even go into the village.'

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

(People: Praise to You Lord Christ)