

John 2:13-22

from the Common English Bible

¹³It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴He found in the temple those who were selling cattle, sheep, and doves, as well as those involved in exchanging currency sitting there. ¹⁵He made a whip from ropes and chased them all out of the temple, including the cattle and the sheep. He scattered the coins and overturned the tables of those who exchanged currency. ¹⁶He said to the dove sellers, “Get these things out of here! Don’t make my Father’s house a place of business.” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it is written, *Passion for your house consumes me.* ¹⁸Then the Jewish leaders asked him, “By what authority are you doing these things? What miraculous sign will you show us?” ¹⁹Jesus answered, “Destroy this temple and in three days I’ll raise it up.” ²⁰The Jewish leaders replied, “It took forty-six years to build this temple, and you will raise it up in three days?” ²¹But the temple Jesus was talking about was his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered what he had said, and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

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from the Common English Bible

¹Heaven is declaring God’s glory; the sky is proclaiming his handiwork.

²One day gushes the news to the next, and one night informs another what needs to be known.

³Of course, there’s no speech, no words - their voices can’t be heard...

⁴but their sound extends throughout the world; their words reach the ends of the earth.

God has made a tent in heaven for the sun. ⁵The sun is like a groom coming out of his honeymoon suite; like a warrior, it thrills at running its course.

⁶It rises in one end of the sky; its circuit is complete at the other. Nothing escapes its heat.

⁷The Lord’s Instruction is perfect, reviving one’s very being.

The Lord’s laws are faithful, making naive people wise.

⁸The Lord’s regulations are right, gladdening the heart.

The Lord’s commands are pure, giving light to the eyes.

⁹Honoring the Lord is correct, lasting forever.

The Lord’s judgments are true. All of these are righteous!

¹⁰They are more desirable than gold - than tons of pure gold!

They are sweeter than honey - even dripping off the honeycomb!

¹¹No doubt about it: your servant is enlightened by them; there is great reward in keeping them.

¹²But can anyone know what they've accidentally done wrong? Clear me of any unknown sin...

¹³and save your servant from willful sins. Don't let them rule me.

Then I'll be completely blameless; I'll be innocent of great wrongdoing. ¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing to you, Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Second Scripture Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

from the Common English Bible

¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³You must have no other gods before me. ⁴Do not make an idol for yourself - no form whatsoever - of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters under the earth. ⁵Do not bow down to them or worship them, because I, the Lord your God, am a passionate God. I punish children for their parents' sins even to the third and fourth generations of those who hate me. ⁶But I am loyal and gracious to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷Do not use the Lord your God's name as if it were of no significance; the Lord won't forgive anyone who uses his name that way. ⁸Remember the Sabbath day and treat it as holy. ⁹Six days you may work and do all your tasks, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. Do not do any work on it - not you, your sons or daughters, your male or female servants, your animals, or the immigrant who is living with you. ¹¹Because the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them in six days, but rested on the seventh day. That is why the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. ¹²Honor your father and your mother so that your life will be long on the fertile land that the Lord your God is giving you. ¹³Do not kill. ¹⁴Do not commit adultery. ¹⁵Do not steal. ¹⁶Do not testify falsely against your neighbor. ¹⁷Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's house. Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's wife, male or female servant, ox, donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.