

September 21- All Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Psalm 79

Plea for Mercy for Jerusalem

A Psalm of Asaph.

- ¹ O God, the nations have come into your inheritance;
they have defiled your holy temple;
they have laid Jerusalem in ruins.
- ² They have given the bodies of your servants
to the birds of the air for food,
the flesh of your faithful to the wild animals of the earth.
- ³ They have poured out their blood like water
all around Jerusalem,
and there was no one to bury them.
- ⁴ We have become a taunt to our neighbors,
mocked and derided by those around us.
- ⁵ How long, O LORD? Will you be angry forever?
Will your jealous wrath burn like fire?
- ⁶ Pour out your anger on the nations
that do not know you
and on the kingdoms
that do not call on your name.

⁷ For they have devoured Jacob
and laid waste his habitation.

⁸ Do not remember against us the iniquities of our
ancestors;

let your compassion come speedily to meet us,
for we are brought very low.

⁹ Help us, O God of our salvation,
for the glory of your name;
deliver us and forgive our sins,
for your name's sake

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Luke 16:1-13

The Parable of the Dishonest Manager

16 Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me

into their homes.’ ⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”