


The Eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha



Outline of Readings

1. God's displeasure with His people
 2. His Warnings
 3. The Remedy
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What Displease God

1. The hated mixture
 2. The outward worship
 3. Spiritual adultery
 4. Despising the invitation
 5. Absence of readiness
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What Displease God⁽¹⁾

□ *The hated mixture: They are like others*

First hour prophecy: Ezekiel 22:17-18

“The word of the LORD came to me, saying,
‘Son of man, the house of Israel has become
dross to Me; they *are* all bronze, tin, iron, and
lead, in the midst of a furnace; they have
become dross from silver””



What Displease God⁽²⁾

□ *The outward worship:*

- Third hour prophecy: Amos 5:21-24

“I hate, I despise your feast days, And I do not savor your sacred assemblies. Though you offer Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept *them*, Nor will I regard your fattened peace offerings. Take away from Me the noise of your songs, For I will not hear the melody of your stringed instruments. But let justice run down like water, And righteousness like a mighty stream”

- Eleventh Hour Gospel: John 5:11 (Preparing the Passover)



What Displease God⁽³⁾

- *Spiritual Adultery: They followed other gods*

Sixth hour prophecy: Jeremiah 16:11

“...then you shall say to them, ‘Because your fathers have forsaken Me,’ says the LORD; ‘they have walked after other gods and have served them and worshiped them, and have forsaken Me and not kept My law’”



What Displease God⁽⁴⁾

□ *Despising the Invitation:*

First Hour Gospel: Matthew 22:4-5

“Again, he sent out other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle *are* killed, and all things *are* ready. Come to the wedding.”’ But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business”



What Displease God⁽⁵⁾

□ Absence of Readiness:

- Third Hour Gospel: Matthew 24:37-39

“But as the days of Noah *were*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be”

- Sixth Hour Gospel: Parable of the Ten Virgins



God's Warnings

1. Melting the mixture in the furnace
 2. Rejection of the assembly and their worship
 3. The closed door
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The Remedy

□ *Acquiring Wisdom*

- The wise and faithful servant (3rd hour gospel)
 - The five wise virgins (6th hour gospel)
 - What wisdom can do (11th hour prophesy from the Wisdom of Solomon)
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How can wisdom help us to please God?

1. No defiled thing fall into her
 2. She can do all things
 3. She makes everything new
 4. She makes us friends with God
 5. Vice shall not prevail against her
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