

(Continuation of Psalm 105 from Page 3)

26. So He raised His hand against them, to put an end to them in the wilderness,  
27. to humble their posterity among the nations, and to scatter them in the lands.  
28. They also enjoined themselves to Baal-phegor and ate of the sacrifices to the dead.  
29. And they exasperated Him by these pursuits, that His blows upon them increased.  
30. Then Phineas stood and made atonement, and the devastation ceased.  
31. This was attributed to his righteousness, from generation to generation unto the ages.  
32. And they provoked Him also at the waters of strife,  
and Moses was afflicted because of them.  
33. Because they provoked his spirit, he gave orders with his lips.  
34. They did not destroy the heathen nations as the Lord had told them to do.  
35. They intermingled among the heathen, they learned their customs;  
36. thus they became enslaved to their graven images, and it became for them a stumbling block.  
37. Indeed, they made offerings of their sons and daughters to the demons,  
38. and they shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters,  
whom they sacrificed to the graven images of Canaan. [Numbers 33:55]  
And the land was defiled with the blood of their murder,  
39. and was profaned by their own doing, as they went about in pursuit of lewdness.  
40. Therefore the Lord was angered by His people, and He loathed His own inheritance.  
41. And He delivered them into the hands of the enemy, and the hated ones lorded over them.  
42. Their enemies oppressed them, and in their hands they were humbled.  
43. How many times did He deliver them? Still they provoked him with  
their determination, and were humiliated by their iniquities.  
44. Yet the Lord, in their afflictions, heard their supplications.  
45. And He remembered His covenant and, because of His great mercy, He repented.  
46. He granted to them pity in the sight of those that had captured them.  
47. Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us out from among the heathen,  
that we may give thanks unto Thy holy name, that we may exult in Thy praise.  
48. Blessed be the God of Israel, from ever to forever;  
and all the people shall say, so be it, so be it.  
*Glory. Both now. Alleluia.*

This is the first psalm of the Fifteenth Kathisma. It is the second of the "Historical Psalms" reciting the history of the Jews during the exodus from Egypt. More importantly it recites the number of provocations that the people have provided to the Lord and how often he resolved to annihilate them only to accede to the intercessions of His prophets and give the people a second chance. The final verse is a doxology offered by the people in thanksgiving for His mercy. None of the verses of this psalm are used in our services.

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# SAINT SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

## Ἡ Ναός τῆς Ἁγίας Σοφίας τοῦ Θεοῦ

Washington, D.C.

February 21, 2010

Sunday of Orthodoxy

The Tone for this day is Four

The Morning Gospel of the Orthros is No. 4

Luke 24:1-12

**On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.**

## THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

**PROKEIMENON:** Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our Fathers.  
For you are righteous in all things you have done for us. Daniel 3:26 + 27

### The Epistle is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40

BRETHREN, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets -- who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign enemies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated -- of whom the world was not worthy -- wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

### The Gospel Lesson is from John 1:43-52

AT THAT TIME, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and he said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

## PSALM 105

*Alleluia.*

1. Give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy is forever.
2. Who can speak of the mighty power of the Lord?  
Who can make known all of His praises?
3. Blessed are they that avoid condemnation, and preserve righteousness at all times.
4. Remember us, O Lord, with kindness to Thy people, visit us with Thy deliverance.
  5. That we may perceive the usefulness of being Thy chosen, that we may rejoice in the joyfulness of being Thy nation, so that we may partake of Thy inheritance.
6. We have sinned with our fathers; we had engaged in it; we had done wrong.
  7. Our fathers in Egypt did not understand Thy wonders, nor did they recall the extent of Thy mercy; and they were disillusioned as they approached the Red Sea.
  8. But He saved them for His name's sake, that they may know His power.
    9. He enjoined the Red Sea, and it became dry; so He guided them into its depths, as if it were a desert.
    10. Thus He saved them from the hand of those that hated them' He redeemed them from the hand of their enemy.
    11. The waters then covered their oppressors. Of these none survived.
    12. Then they believed His words, and sang praises to Him.
    13. Promptly, they forgot His works, nor did they await His counsel,
    14. but in the wilderness they set their minds upon their cravings, and they bothered God when in need of water.
    15. And He gave them their desire, and He sent satisfaction into their souls.
  16. While in the camp they exasperated Moses, and Aaron, the holy one of the Lord.
  17. The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan, and covered the followers of Abiron.
  18. Then a fire flared up among their followers and the blaze consumed the sinners.
  19. And they fashioned a calf in Horeb, and they worshipped the graven image.
  20. Thus they altered His splendor into the likeness of a calf grazing on grass.
    21. The God who had saved them was forgotten; He who had done great things in Egypt,
  22. Wondrous things in the land of Cham, and frightful events at the Red Sea.
    23. And He said that He would have wasted them, had not Moses His chosen one stood in the opening before Him, to turn away His vengeful fury, lest He destroy them.
    24. Indeed, they scorned that desirable land; and they did not trust His word.
  25. But they grumbled in their tabernacle; they did not listen to the voice of the Lord.

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