

Sunday, February 1, 2008

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Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 18: 15 - 20

1st Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 7: 32 – 35

Mark 1: 21 – 28

The Book of Deuteronomy signifies the second edition of the law, because it explains many of the laws already given in the previous 4 books of the Old Testament. Scholars have described the gospel as a kind of Deuteronomy; a spiritual law, a law of faith, and by it we are under the law of Christ.

In Deuteronomy 18: 15 – 20, Moses delivers a spirit of prophecy that shall continue among the people, which God promised Moses at Mt Sinai. It is the promise of Christ. Like Moses, this prophet is to be one among them and to live with them. Furthermore, in verse 18b is the idea that He (the prophet) is the Word by whom God speaks to us. So whatever messages God sends to us, God would do so through Christ. This scripture also addresses false prophets, as there is so much danger of being misled and fooled by false promises and idols.

Our Lenten journey begins in 25 days. As we ponder our uncertain future – we must look to the past and see how we might have been misled by greed and foolishness and not paying attention to Christ. One Lenten question might be... How can I keep my mind on Christ and the message of the Cross?

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