

Sunday Readings Reflections

8/7/2016

Reading 1 [Wisdom 18:6-9](#)

The most memorable event in the early history of the Israelites was their exodus from Egypt. God led them out of slavery and saved them from their enemies. Today's reading recalls God's special care and protection of the Israelites. The author sees God's people as "the holy children of the good" who have cooperated with God's plan for salvation.

Reading 2 [Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19](#) or [11:1-2, 8-12](#)

Because the Israelites believed, God saved them. Today's second reading recalls how our early faith ancestors placed their trust in God. Abraham and Sarah left their comfortable home and went to an unknown land because God called them. When God promised that they would have a son (Isaac), they were old enough to be great-grandparents. But they believed. They had the virtue of faith, a lasting confidence that God's word would be fulfilled.

Gospel [Luke 12:32-48](#) or [Luke 12:35-40](#)

One way Christians can prove that they are a people of faith is to live every day as though they expect Jesus to return. Today's gospel urges us to be awake and on the watch like servants awaiting the master's return home. We should be "on guard" against anyone or anything that leads us astray from Christ. Since no one knows when the final judgment will happen, the wise person will always be prepared for it.

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