

SCRIPTURE READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom

I loved wisdom more than health or beauty.

I prayed, and understanding was given to me;
I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me.
I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones;
compared with her, I held riches as nothing.

I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer,
for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand,
and beside her silver ranks as mud.

I loved her more than health or beauty,
preferred her to the light,
since her radiance never sleeps.

May God grant me to speak as he would wish
and express thoughts worthy of his gifts,
since he himself is the guide of Wisdom,
since he directs the sages.

We are indeed in his hand, we ourselves and our words,
with all our understanding, too, and technical knowledge.

This is the word of the Lord.

Rx. Thanks be to God.