



# Tenth Sunday Of The Year

## The Divided Kingdom

### Introduction

One of the things that brings many a good project to a bad end is when cracks and divisions appear. In other words- when people fall out. As today's Gospel puts it: "Any kingdom that is divided against itself cannot stand". We are all divided within ourselves. Each of us is pulled towards good and evil at the same time.

### First Reading (Genesis 3: 9-15)

Adam and Eve were tempted and fell. This reading deals with the tragic consequences of that fall.

### Second Reading (2 Cor 4: 13-5: 1)

In the midst of his trials Paul looks to the world to come in which God will provide us with a permanent dwelling place instead of a temporary tent.

### Gospel (Mark 3: 20-35)

In this passage you will see how Jesus was misunderstood by his family and slandered by the scribes, yet he was accepted by the ordinary people.

### Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray to our Father that his kingdom may come among us-the kingdom for which Jesus gave his life.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

For the Church: that it may be a sign of unity and an instrument of reconciliation in a world riddled with divisions. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

For all human family: that the Spirit of God may heal its divisions and bind it together in ties of mutual and care. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.



## Liturgy Cycle B

For all those who suffer because of divided families or divided countries: that they may not lose heart or hope. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

That each of us may strive to live up to our dignity as sons and daughters of our Father, and so be a source of unity among our friends and neighbours. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

### Communion Reflection

"No kingdom that is divided within itself can stand",  
said Jesus.

I myself am a divided kingdom.

I am divided within myself.

"The good which I want to do,  
I don't do;  
the evil which I want to avoid,  
I find myself doing".

This is how St. Paul puts it.

There exist within me forces  
that will do their utmost to drag me down,  
so that my life is like a field in which  
wheat and weeds grow side by side,  
struggle for supremacy.

Who will save me from myself?  
Who will keep my kingdom from falling down?  
Only Jesus, who overpowered Satan,  
will heal the division within me,  
and help me to take complete possession  
of my own house.

Then I shall be free, united, and at peace.  
Perhaps I shall never gain the complete victory in this life.  
Enough that I keep up the fight,  
and that final victory is achieved  
in the life that is to come.