



About the Cover

Everything Jesus says is true. While prophesying of the coming destruction of the temple, Jesus also warned of false teachers who would claim to be Him. Just as Jesus says, the temple was destroyed in AD 70, and many false messiahs have come and gone throughout world history. All teaching must be tested against the Holy Scriptures (1 John 4:1). God's Word alone gives life because Jesus is true God and true man who died, rose, ascended, will return, and remains forever for us.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading: Daniel 12:1-3

¹At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. ²And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

Epistle: Hebrews 10:11-25

¹¹Every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹²But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. ¹⁴For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

¹⁵The Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,

¹⁶ "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,"

¹⁷then he adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

¹⁹Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

²³Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Holy Gospel: Mark 13:1-13

¹As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!" ²And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

³And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?" ⁴And Jesus began to say to them, "See that no one leads you astray. ⁵Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁶And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. ⁷For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains.

⁸But be on your guard. For they will deliver you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them. ⁹And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations. ¹⁰And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. ¹¹And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death. ¹²And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved."