



First Reading: (*Wis 7:7-11*) I prayed, and understanding was given me; I called upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her to scepters and thrones, and I accounted wealth as nothing in comparison with her. Neither did I liken to her any priceless gem, because all gold is but a little sand in her sight, and silver will be accounted as clay before her. I loved her more than health and beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light, because her radiance never ceases. All good things came to me along with her, and in her hands uncounted wealth.

Ps 89:12-17

R./ Fill us with your love that we may rejoice

Second Reading: (*Heb 4:12-13*) The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are open and

laid bare to the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

Gospel: (*Mk 10:17-30*) As he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not kill, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have observed from my youth." And Jesus looking upon him loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." At that saying his countenance fell, and he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were amazed at his words. But



Sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”

Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “With men it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God.” Peter began to say to him, “Lo,

we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.

REFLECTION

Many people today set great value on having or acquiring wealth. Bookshops are full of books on how to get rich quickly. And provided I keep the commandments and I am a morally good person, what's wrong with being rich? The gospel today speaks to us about the danger of this attitude. A rich man comes up to Jesus. He is a good man and is full of enthusiasm for religion and we have to admire the man. Jesus is appreciative of this. Then Jesus gently challenges the young man. You could do something more. Set your goals high and venture to do something new. The first thing is to leave the old life behind. If the ship does not leave the shore it cannot sail to the other side of the ocean. The man is not willing because he was not willing to give up his great wealth. Jesus has a way of looking at people. **The eyes of Christ penetrate our hearts so that he sees what we lack.** God knows what are the things that hold us back from giving ourselves fully and completely to him. God knows our resistances. If we allow him to work on them, then we will be transformed persons setting our eyes on real values.