

## Scripture Readings for October 18

### Isaiah 45:1-7

- 1 "This is what the LORD says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armor, to open doors before him so that gates will not be shut:
- 2 I will go before you and will level the mountains ; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron.
- 3 I will give you the treasures of darkness, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name.
- 4 For the sake of Jacob my servant, of Israel my chosen, I summon you by name and bestow on you a title of honor, though you do not acknowledge me.
- 5 I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me,
- 6 so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting men may know there is none besides me. I am the LORD, and there is no other.
- 7 I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, do all these things.

### Ephesians 3:14-21

- 14 For this reason I kneel before the Father,
- 15 from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name.
- 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,
- 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,
- 18 may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,
- 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge--that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.
- 20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,
- 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

### Matthew 22:15-22

- 15 Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words.
- 16 They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are.
- 17 Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"
- 18 But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me?"
- 19 Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius,
- 20 and he asked them, "Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?"
- 21 "Caesar's," they replied. Then he said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."
- 22 When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.