

MARCH 4, 2021  
Thursday of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent  
Luke 16: 19-31

“TRUE AND LASTING TREASURE.”

How do we look on our difficulties, sufferings, and challenges? Are we feeling hopeless and desperate that all these things will not pass away? Are tired, weary, and exhausted of what we are facing now? In our first reading, Prophet Jeremiah gives us the way to overcome and conquer all our difficulties that we are in, that is, trust in the Lord: “Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought, it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.”<sup>1</sup> Jeremiah is telling us that when we rely on God, we will not be disappointed because God will be their comfort, the infinite resources of hope, love, and joy. This is what Lazarus felt when he trusts in the Lord even if here on earth, he experienced difficulties, problems, hunger, and poverty. He knew that all these things were temporary, and all his suffering will end, just be faithful, dedicated and trust the Lord. “The name Lazarus means God is my help. Despite a life of misfortune and suffering, Lazarus did not lose hope in God. His eyes were set on a treasure stored up for him in heaven. The rich man, however, could not see beyond his material wealth and possessions. He not only had everything he needed, he selfishly spent all he had on himself. He was too absorbed in what he possessed to notice the needs of those around him. He lost sight of God and the treasure of heaven because he was preoccupied with seeking happiness in material things. He served wealth rather than God. In the end the rich man became a beggar!”<sup>2</sup> My brothers and sisters, let us not lose hope in God, focus, and fix our eyes on God, and He will take care of all our sufferings and difficulties. All these things will pass away but not God. Do we trust the Lord especially in this time of pandemic? The authentic treasure is not what materials things can give but God who is the true and lasting treasure.

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<sup>1</sup> Jeremiah 17: 7-8 NRSV Catholic Bible Press USA

<sup>2</sup> [www.dailyscripture.net/](http://www.dailyscripture.net/)