

**A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Timothy**

**Beloved:**

**Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead,  
a descendant of David: such is my gospel,  
for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains,  
like a criminal.**

**But the word of God is not chained.**

**Therefore, I bear with everything  
for the sake of those who are chosen,  
so that they too may obtain the salvation  
that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.**

**This saying is trustworthy:  
if we have died with him  
we shall also live with him;  
if we persevere  
we shall also reign with him.**

**But if we deny him  
he will deny us.**

**If we are unfaithful  
he remains faithful,  
for he cannot deny himself.**

**The Word of the Lord**