

ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΣ ΠΛΗΡΩΜΑΤΟΣ
Apostolic Church of the Pleroma

*Delivered by Tau Bruno II
to the Parish of St. Ambelain
on Sunday, August 30, 2015*

YEAR B - PROPER 17

Brethren, "Be doers of the word and not hearers only." This sums up our readings today. As Gnostics we reveal the gnosis which our forefathers revealed to us, we teach the truth the Logos revealed, and impart the Holy Spirit which the Father sent down from above.

"Religion pure and undefiled before the God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the cosmos." We were once all orphans, children lost, separated from our true home and family. We have been locked away within the cosmos, away from our true home, but now through Christ we know of the Father and where he resides. For us who know the truth, we are no longer orphans. Our family sits next to us in the pews, they guide and succor us in the psychical plane, and they prepare a place of peace and rest within our Father's fullness.

Because we are no longer orphans, our duty is twofold: we must guide and enfold our lost brothers and sisters, without getting lost again ourselves. We do this by teaching those around us about the Christian tradition. This occurs through word and deed. Christ says to listen and understand, "There is nothing outside of man that is able to defile him by entering him; but the things coming out from the man are what defiles him." If you open your mouth and the Holy Spirit leaps from you to enlighten your brethren, if your hands lift your brother up onto the Path of Righteousness, if you exude morality and peace, indeed you have kept yourself unstained by the cosmos. But if you have abandoned God's commandment in favor of the traditions of men, labelling yourself a Christian without living as one; then by withholding your spirit, knowledge, and love, you have defiled the purity Christ revealed in you. Once again you have blanketed yourself in ignorance and hypocrisy separating yourself from the rest which is awaiting you in the Father's fullness.

I leave you today to meditate on the conclusion of our first reading. I urge you to listen and understand.

"Such is the place of the blessed, such is their place. As for the others, let them know, in their own places, that I should not say more, for I have been in the place of rest. There I shall dwell, to devote myself constantly to the Father of the All and the true brothers and sister, upon whom the Father's love is lavished, and in whose midst nothing of him is lacking. They appear in truth dwelling in true and eternal life, and they speak of the perfect light filled with the Father's seed, which is in his heart and in the pleroma. His spirit rejoices in them and glorifies him in whom it was. For his is good, and his children are perfect and worthy of his Name. Children like this the Father loves."