

# Readings: Feria

First Reading: 1 Kings 11:4-13

When Solomon was old his wives had turned his heart to strange gods,  
and his heart was not entirely with the Lord, his God,  
as the heart of his father David had been.  
By adoring Astarte, the goddess of the Sidonians,  
and Milcom, the idol of the Ammonites,  
Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord;  
he did not follow him unreservedly as his father David had done.  
Solomon then built a high place to Chemosh, the idol of Moab,  
and to Molech, the idol of the Ammonites,  
on the hill opposite Jerusalem.  
He did the same for all his foreign wives  
who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.  
The Lord, therefore, became angry with Solomon,  
because his heart was turned away from the Lord, the God of Israel,  
who had appeared to him twice  
(for though the Lord had forbidden him  
this very act of following strange gods,  
Solomon had not obeyed him).

So the Lord said to Solomon: "Since this is what you want,  
and you have not kept my covenant and my statutes  
which I enjoined on you,  
I will deprive you of the kingdom and give it to your servant.  
I will not do this during your lifetime, however,  
for the sake of your father David;  
it is your son whom I will deprive.  
Nor will I take away the whole kingdom.  
I will leave your son one tribe for the sake of my servant David

and of Jerusalem, which I have chosen."

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Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40

R./ Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.

Blessed are they who observe what is right,  
who do always what is just.  
Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people;  
visit us with your saving help.

R./ Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.

But they mingled with the nations  
and learned their works.  
They served their idols,  
which became a snare for them.

R./ Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.

They sacrificed their sons  
and their daughters to demons.  
And the Lord grew angry with his people,  
and abhorred his inheritance.

R./ Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.

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Gospel Introduction

Despised pagans too, are offered salvation. The doctors of the Law had called the region where Jesus worked this miracle, a region of dogs. God lifts up the lowly who believe. Grace is no exclusive privilege for God's people. The kingdom is also for pagans.

Gospel Reading: Mark 7:24-30

Jesus went to the district of Tyre.  
He entered a house and wanted no one to know about it,  
but he could not escape notice.  
Soon a woman whose daughter had an unclean spirit heard about him.  
She came and fell at his feet.  
The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by birth,  
and she begged him to drive the demon out of her daughter.  
He said to her, "Let the children be fed first.  
For it is not right to take the food of the children  
and throw it to the dogs."  
She replied and said to him,  
"Lord, even the dogs under the table eat the children's scraps."  
Then he said to her, "For saying this, you may go.  
The demon has gone out of your daughter."  
When the woman went home, she found the child lying in bed

and the demon gone.

