

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

(14:7-12)

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.  
If we live, we live to the Lord,  
and if we die, we die to the Lord;  
so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.  
For to this end Christ died and lived again,  
so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.  
Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister?  
Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister?  
For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.  
For it is written,  
"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God."  
So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord.