

LITURGY OF THE KINGDOM

The Seed of Resurrection

FIRST READING

Reader: *A reading taken from the spiritual heritage of humanity.*

Assembly: *From all time, Heaven has prepared the coming of the Kingdom.*

Reader: *Today a passage from Saint John Paul II's General Audience of November 4, 1998.*

It is written:



The Holy Spirit, who transformed the body of the risen Christ will clothe our own bodies with Christ's glory.

Like Saint Paul when he spoke to the citizens of Athens, we sometimes meet with reactions of skepticism regarding our faith in eternal life, which is clarified in the light of the Lord's Resurrection.

Christianity is not satisfied with the simple assertion of a reincarnation; it emphasizes the realism of the corporal Resurrection of Jesus who appeared, ate and drank with his Apostles after Easter.

Jesus rose with his glorious body and lives with this body at the Father's side.

This body of ours will be changed into a glorious body, into a "spiritual body" marked by "the imperishable" and by "**immortality**" (according to Saint Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians).

Our participation in the Eucharist gives us a foretaste of Christ's transfiguration of our bodies. His flesh, enlivened by the Holy Spirit, already allows us to share in his resurrection and state of glory.

As Saint Irenaeus of Lyons wrote: "Our bodies, which partake of the Eucharist, possess '**the hope [or seed] of resurrection**'."

Reader: *This was a passage from one of Saint John Paul II's General Audiences.*

Assembly: *Thanks be to God.*