

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

Short Version

Wisdom 3:1-6,9

The souls of the just are in the hand of God
And no torment shall touch them.
They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;
And their passing away was though an affliction
And their going forth from us, utter destruction.
But they are in peace.
For if in the eyes of men indeed, they be punished
Yet is their hope full of immortality;
Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,
Because God tried them,
And found them worthy of himself.
As gold in the furnace, he proved them,
And as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.
Those who trust in him shall understand truth
and the faithful shall abide with him in love;
Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,
And his care is with his elect.
The word of the Lord.