



By [Glenn CJ Byer, MA SLD](#)

The claim of the first reading, that everyone who had been put into exile would come home to Israel, was filled with such an exuberant hope that not only would the children of Israel come back, but also that the whole world would come to see Jerusalem as their home. They would come bringing their wealth, and as we sing the Psalm we see that it would be a glorious day. The visit of the Magi recounted in the Gospel makes this dream a reality, but the true treasure comes in the second reading, where Paul recounts how God revealed to him that the Gentiles could be saved, that they could come home too. No more do we speak of 'us' and 'them' there are no longer nations, gentiles, Jews, Israelites, all take on that marvelous name of 'coheir' 'copartner' and members, truly sisters and brothers of Christ and in Christ and through Christ. It is a great day indeed, but also a great challenge. For if all of this is true, no Christian can discriminate on the basis of race or nation - we are all called to share in the one destiny.

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