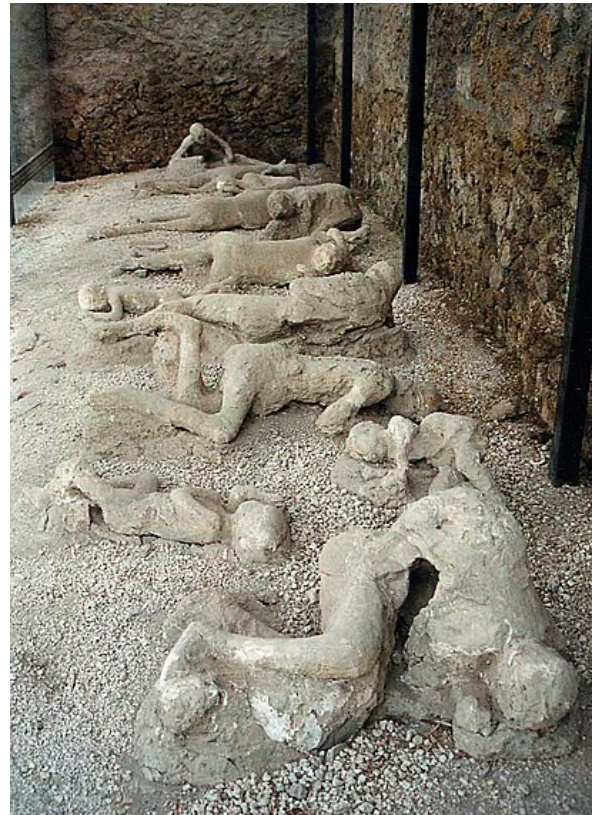


# 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31, 1 Thes 5:1-6, Mt 25:14-30

## Pompeii

In 79 AD, the volcano Vesuvius, which rises just off the Bay of Naples, Italy, erupted violently and totally destroyed Pompeii, a city of 20,000 population. In 1949 the archeologists reproduced a startling cast of one of the Pompeian victims. He lay face-down as if death had taken him completely by surprise. In one hand was a small crowbar. In the other, clasped tight in his fist, were several gold coins. To all appearances he was a thief who had taken advantage of the confusion to break into a building and rob the owner.



### QUESTIONS:

1. What bible verse from the readings is best connected to this? Explain.

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2. Write a short story or an essay. What do you think were his final thoughts during these last desperate moments? Does history remember him as a villain who perished during a sinful act or simply a man caught off guard by disaster and struggling to survive on his own terms?