

St. John's
Bible Study
2020-Verses

Student Sunday

The abbreviation for **STUDENT** can be like this S – submissive T – trust in God U – understand God’s Word D – Depend on God E – Efforts N – neglect T – Testify about God A student is one who must be submissive to God, trust the Word without any negligence depending on God putting all efforts to understand God’s word to testify about Him A student’s life is a happy life having no responsibilities except studying and preparing for the exams and learning new concepts. King Solomon advises the young in **Prov 2:1-12** one must acquire Wisdom and have an inclination towards understanding the WORD. The student must seek the Lord for wisdom because with wisdom only he can understand things. From where the Wisdom comes??Prov2:6says the Lord gives wisdom, from His mouth comes knowledge and understanding. The student must search Wisdom in a way how he searches for Silver. The student must have integrity which leads him in the right way because Lord is like a shield for those who walk in integrity. Once the student receives Wisdom he will have discretion which is right and wrong and he will escape from the way of evil and also from men of perverted speech.

Psalms

Psalm 119:9 says how can a young man keep his ways pure? Just by guarding it according to His WORD. An everyday student must ask the Lord not to wander from His commandments and to follow His ways. Jesus when he was very young itself he showed interest in learning the scriptures and was filled with Wisdom and in favor of God and men **Luke 2:52**. Students must be like Jesus and must find favor with men and God. Barnabas was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith and he could lead many people to the Lord **Acts 11:24**. Saul and Barnabas taught many people at Antioch and there the disciples were first called CHRISTIANS. If one student accepts Jesus as his personal Saviour and follows Jesus, he can lead many students towards Lord. **Matt5:13,14** says the salt gives taste, if it loses its saltiness it has to be thrown out. Similarly, the student having Jesus must be salt-like wherever he is there he must keep the people lively. Light drives away darkness and we won’t put a light under a basket, but on a stand and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, the student also can shine like a light when he obeys God’s Word and seeks His Wisdom. Author: **Mrs. Sujatha Madhukar**

Verses for 08 June 2020

Old Testament

Psalm 95: A call to praise the Lord This psalm calls us to make sure that our worship and praise are accompanied by hearts that are obedient to the Lord. **Psalm 96:** ” Call to worship the Lord “ Those of us who received God’s Salvation and experienced His wonderful deeds must be eager to tell others that He can deliver and save them. **1 Sam 14** This chapter emphasizes that the Israelites defeated the Philistines only because God acted on their behalf.They were discouraged, outnumbered and inadequately armed (13:19to 22), with no reasonable hope of victory, yet they won the battle because the Lord saved Israel that day(v.23).When circumstances seem to be against us and our resources seem inadequate, as children of God we have the right to call on Him to help us in our time of need .He has promised to be “A very present help in trouble” and to supply grace for all our needs.

† New Testament

Rev 5:5 Christ is pictured as a Lion ,indicating He will rule as a king of all the earth. **Rev 5:6** “Lamb” is the foremost symbol for Christ in Revelation **Rev 5:8** This refers to the intercession of the saints for the coming of the kingdom when they will reign on the earth.Their prayer is “Thy kingdom come .Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven”

Reference

" Life in the Spirit" NIV Study Bible

Verses for 9th June 2020

Psalms

Psalm 97:10 : Those who claim to love the Lord will be tested by how much they hate evil while living on this earth. **Psalm 98:9**: This verse will find its ultimate fulfillment in our Lord's return to judge the world .Rev 19:22 **Psalm 99:6** Although God is holy and to be feared he has come down to us through Jesus Christ. He seeks our fellowship and delights in hearing and answering His people's prayers.

Old Testament

1 Samuel 15:2 The Amalekites had been the first to oppose God and the nation of Israel. It was Saul's responsibility to destroy the Amalekites and their evil ways.

† New Testament

Rev 6:1 Jesus Christ Himself opens all the seals, which disclose end time judgements in the earth.

Verses for 10th June

Psalms

Psalm 100: A song of praise and joy 100:2 come before his presence with singing. Individual and congregational singing should be done primarily “unto the Lord ” with joy and out of conscious awareness of his presence. **Psalm 101 :** A perfect heart 101:2 I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. Faithful believers will make it a priority to please God in their own homes. Family relationships are where true godliness is developed.

Witnessing

Psalm 67: God governs the nations. 2 That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.

Old Testament

1Samuel 15:22 To obey is better than sacrifice. Obeying God’s Word from the heart is better than any outward form of worship.

† New Testament

Revelation 6:16 The wrath of the Lamb The wrath of the Lamb portrayed is directed against impenitent wickedness. Faithful believers , redeemed ones are rescued from end time wrath. **Rev 6:9** slain for the word of God. When the fifth seal is opened, John sees what is happening in heaven. Those “slain for the word of God ” are those who are martyred for their faith in Christ and the truth of His Word, many more will yet die for their faith.

Verses for 12th June

† Salvation

 Old Testament

Exodus 14:13 And Moses said unto the people, fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you today, for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more, forever. **Psalm 105 : 4** Seek the Lord, and his strength. We are invited not only to seek the Lord's presence but also the power and strength of His grace. 15 Touch not mine annointed. In this context , the annointed ones are Abraham, Isaac Jacob. (with his new name Israel)

† New Testament

Revelation 7:17 He shall wipe away all tears. This promise may refer to the removal of any memory that might cause suffering, regret or remorse. In heaven nothing that involves deprivation, suffering or sorrow remains.

Verses for 13th June

Psalms

Psalm 106:15 : But sent leanness into their soul. We must beware of desiring and pursuing what is not in the will of God. God sometimes let's us have our own way, but with it comes spiritual leanness or physical calamity.

Old Testament

1 Samuel 17:50 David prevailed over the Philistine. David's victory over Goliath came as a result of his faith in God that had already been tested and proven in his life. We can identify the specific factors that led to his triumph. 1) David had a heart for God, that caused him to seek the Lord and his face continually. 2) David had a zealous and deep concern for the honour and reputation of the Lord God of Israel. He recognized that Goliath was defying not just the armies of Israel, but the Lord God Himself. 3) David's confidence in the Lord's power, has been strengthened by his memory of previous times when he had prayed for and experienced God's deliverance. 4) David trusted, not in himself but in God, to achieve the victory over Goliath and the Philistines.

Second*Coming

Isaiah 35:4 Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not, behold your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense, he will come and save you.

† New Testament

Revelation 17 Chapters 17 to 18 portray the fall of Babylon the Great.

1. Babylon is the symbol of the whole world system under the antichrist, as dominated by Satan and manifesting wickedness politically, religiously and commercially.
2. Babylon will be completely destroyed, during the last three and half years of this age.
3. Religious Babylon will be destroyed by the antichrist, while political Babylon will be destroyed by Christ at His coming.

Verses for 15th June

Psalms

Psalm 107 : This is a choice song for the redeemed of the Lord. Although it celebrates providential deliverance, and therefore may be sung by any man whose life has been presumed in time of danger yet under care of this, it mainly magnifies the Lord for spiritual Blessings of which temporal favours are but type of shadows. The theme is Thanksgiving, and the motives for it .The construction of the psalm is highly poetical, and merely as a composition it would be hard to find its compare among human production. – Charles H Spurgeon **Psalm 108 :** My heart is fixed the psalmist is confident that ultimately God will deliver his people and give them victory over all their enemies.

Old Testament

1 Samuel 18:10 Saul's rebellion against God, opened the door for evil spirits to torment him .

Verses for 16th June

Psalms

Psalm 109 : ” A cry to God for help” This psalm appeals to God to judge. This prayer reflects a concern that justice be done on earth through righteous punishment. To carry out just retribution is the only way to protect the innocent and assure lawlessness will be held in check in society.

Psalm 110 : The king, the priest and his victory. This psalm speaks of the lordship of the Messiah, His priesthood. It clearly prophesies about Jesus Christ. **110:4 :** Melchizedec God’s priest of Salem. Christ’s priesthood is of the same kind as Melchizedec **110:6** He Shall judge among the heathen. This verse pictures Christ coming to the earth as a warrior to defeat and judge all those who oppose God’s kingdom and his righteousness. **1 Samuel 18:17 to 30** Although the focus is on Saul’s mishandling of his Jealousy, David is going through some terrible struggle. How can I be liked one day and hated next? What wrong did I do, to be so wrongly treated? How am I to respect those in authority when they have succumbed to such evil ways? God was preparing David for serving Him. The training is tough. This passage reminds us that if we focus on the victory of the past or even of present, then our joy of life will be taken from us. We must instead focus on doing the will of God, pursuing to do what is right even when things look so wrong. Indeed, the things David goes through, reminds us clearly of the great misunderstanding and jealousy that Jesus had to face right upto the cross. **Rev 10:8 to 11** Records that the voice John heard from heaven commanded him to take the scroll from the mighty angels had. John obeys the instructions and is told by the mighty angel to eat the Scroll. Upon eating the Scroll, John finds it is sweet to taste but bitter to his stomach . John receives word that he must prophesy again about many people and nations and languages and kings.

Verses for 17th June

Psalms

Psalm 111 : “The Lord’s wonderful works” I will praise the lord. This psalm praises the Lord for his physical and spiritual blessings and for his providential care over those who’ve and fear Him. The psalmist has determined to praise God not only privately, but also “in the congregation “It is Biblical to praise God spontaneously in Church. **Psalm 111:10** : The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. This truth serves as the foundation of OT wisdom literature. **Psalm 112** : “The prosperity of the righteous “ Blessed is the man. This psalm speaks of the blessings in store for a God Fearing and righteous person. God promises to bless those who fear Him and delight in His commandments and written word. 112:7 The psalmist is not moved by fear and anxiety in times of trouble because his trust is in the Lord and not in himself or in external circumstances. **Psalm 113 to 118** : Passover psalms. Jews used these psalms at the yearly passover celebration. The first two were sung before the meal and remaining four after the meal. Thus these were probably the last songs Jesus Christ sang before His death. Since these psalms begin in Hebrew with the word “Hallelujah “Jews came to call them Hallel (Praise) 113 Praise ye the Lord. This psalm reiterates the twofold Biblical principle that God gives grace to the humble and has compassion on the poor and needy.

Old Testament

1Samuel 19:20 The company of prophets. Samuel had founded a “school of the prophets”. An association of prophets is also referred to in the time of Elijah and Elisha. Such schools were organized to mentor those who were prophetically gifted to develop righteous and devout lives through spiritual training, so that their ministry might help check apostasy and encourage righteous obedience to God’s Word. Of special note is the strong influence and great prominence these companies of prophets gave to the Holy Spirit. 19:21 They prophesied likewise. Reveals that the Spirit of God may come upon individuals for judgment or for blessing. 1) Saul had sent “messengers” to arrest David. To hinder their mission the Spirit of God overpowered them with His presence and influence. Saul himself was later overcome by the Spirit and humiliated by being laid out in a trance all day and all night. 2) This passage makes clear that the Holy Spirit’s coming upon an individual for prophesy or any other charismatic manifestation does not always mean that the person’s character or relationship with God is right. 19:24 The word naked in the Bible does not always mean complete nudity . The expression may refer to a person divested of armor or without his outer garment.

† New Testament

Revelation 11 Discusses Israel and the temple and gives an appraisal of her spiritual life. The events recorded here occur in the city where the “Lord was crucified ” i.e Jerusalem. Israel is basically still in unbelief during this part of the tribulation.

Verses for 18th June

Psalms

Psalm 116 I love the Lord. This psalm expresses thanksgiving to the Lord for deliverance from death and declares the praise of all afflicted believers who have been rescued by the Lord and have been spared death and great calamity. **116:12** What shall I render unto the Lord...? Gratitude flows from the hearts of all those who have experienced salvation from the Lord, they will express it by their love, loyalty, righteous living, thanksgiving and their firm resolution to obey the Lord. **116:15** Precious...is the death of his saints. 1) The Lord carefully watches over the lives of His faithful people. 2) He exercises control over the circumstances of their deaths. 3) When they are dying, He is there with them. 4) Their deaths which are of great value to Him, are taken from this life to blessed victory. **Psalm 115:1** Not unto us, but unto thy name give glory. Always desire to manifest God's glory and honor His name before the world.

Old Testament

1Samuel 20 David had an enemy upon the throne; and God gave him a friend in the heir to the throne. If thou hast an enemy, thou hast also a friend; God sets the one over against the other in his providence, do thou set the one over against the other in thy thoughts, and be thou comforted thereby. David might have been very heavy at heart about Saul, and so he was; but Jonathan came in to be the makeweight on the other side, and turn the scale in favor of the son of Jesse. Of him David enquired, "What is mine iniquity? and what is my sin before thy father, that he seeketh my life?"

† New Testament

Revelation 11:15 The seventh angel sounded. The sounding of the seventh trumpet brings an announcement that the world has become the kingdom of Christ, and He will reign forever.

Verses for 19th June

Psalms

Psalm 118 : His mercy endureth for ever. This psalm, praises the Lord, for His everlasting love, for His people. Those, who take refuge in the Lord are assured that, he is for them and with them, to give help and strength. 118:22&23 The stone which the builders refused. Jesus applied these verses to Himself, because, He was thrown aside, by His own people, but afterwards, became the principal stone of God's new house, the church. 118:24 This is the day. The context shows the day referred to here, is a day of salvation or redemption. 118:25 Save now. This phrase becomes "Hosanna " in the Greek translation of OT. It prophesies, the salvation, through Christ's sacrifice and was sung by the crowds, during, Jesus triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

Old Testament

1Samuel 21 So the priest gave him holy bread; for there was no bread there but the showbread. By giving David the bread, Ahimelech broke the priestly custom but, not with God's Word. He rightly understood that, human need was more important than Levitical observance. i. When Jesus' disciples were criticized, for breaking religious custom, by eating against traditions, Jesus used what Ahimelech did to explain the matter (Matthew 12:1-8). Jesus approved of what Ahimelech did, and Jesus honored him, by standing, on Ahimelech's same ground. ii. The point with Ahimelech and Jesus is powerful: human traditions are never more important than God's word itself. If God had said, "Only the priests can eat this bread," it would have been different. But God never said that. To put the only in there, seemed logical, but it was adding to God's Word. We must never elevate our extension or application of God's Word to the same level, as God's word itself. **Psalm 34** is David's declaration of joy, when he escaped from Gath with his life. The title of Psalm 34 reads, A Psalm of David when he pretended madness before Ahimelech, who drove him away, and he departed. i. Psalm 34 begins beautifully: I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; the humble shall hear of it and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together. I sought the LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears (Psalm 34:1-4). David was amazed with gratitude to the LORD. ii. David is especially joyful because, the LORD, got him out of a mess, that David himself made. God's amazing goodness is shown, when He delivers us when we don't really deserve it.

† New Testament

Revelation 12 Presents four great conflicts between God and Satan 1) Satan's conflict with Christ and His work of redemption 2)Satan's conflict with the faithful of Israel 3)Satan's conflict with heaven 4)Satan's conflict with believers.

Verses for 20th June

Psalms

Psalm 119 : Blessed are the undefiled. This psalm expresses, a majestic love for God's written Word. It deals with the Word as promise, commandment, guide, testimony, teaching, wisdom, truth, righteousness and reproof. It is presented as the psalmist's comfort, protection, treasure, rule for life, delight to his heart and soul, and resource for all needs. 1)The psalmist, expresses, a profound love for God, by reading, meditating on and praying over His Word. He teaches us that, we will grow in grace and righteousness, only when, love for that Word, increases in us. 2)This psalm is called, an alphabetical acrostic, because, its 22 stanzas of eight verses each, correspond to the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet. Each verse in the paragraphs, begins with the letter, characteristic of its stanza.

Old Testament

1Samuel 22 Deog, the Edomite did, what Saul's guards were unwilling to do, because of their fear of God . Deog killed God's ministers and other innocent men, women and children. In a fallen world, the innocent sometimes, suffer unjustly. God's people should not be alarmed, when they suffer, at the hands of evil people. In this life, we will experience tribulation, but, in the life to come, we will receive abundant blessing, that far exceeds our present suffering and agonies.

† New Testament

Revelation 13 Describes the conflict between the antichrist and God and His people during tribulation. The beast coming out of the sea, is history's final great world government, consisting of ten kingdoms under the control of antichrist. The sea represents turbulence among many nations. Satan gives his power to this government and uses it against God and His people.

Verses for 23rd June

Psalms

Psalms 120 to 125 : Psalms 120 to 134 are Songs of degrees. These 15 psalms are songs of Accents, Jews would sing together as they went up to Jerusalem, as pilgrims to the sacred feasts. **120 :** The grand thought of this pilgrim psalm is that, God who created the heavens and earth, also watches over the lives of all those who trust Him and His Word. No evil will be allowed to destroy their fellowship with Him **121:** My help cometh from the Lord. Family friends of wealth must never be viewed as our ultimate source of help in this life. That belongs to God, the only source for meeting our needs physically and spiritually. We must trust in Him with all our hearts and seek Him for grace to help in time of need. The Lord is my keeper. The faithful child of God is always under the Lord's protection, defense and watchful care. Jesus emphasized this truth when He said, "The very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore. The lord will preserve thy going out and thy coming in. This text may be applied both to our Christian lives and spiritual birth until we leave this earth and to our physical lives as we go out in the morning to work and come home to rest. God is our protector and he is our constant guard. **122:** The house of the Lord . God's house should be a place where the believer Joyfully experiences intimate communion with the Lord, the fellowship of the Spirit and the love of fellow believers. **123:** Unto thee lift I up mine eyes. This psalm describes humble believers who look continually and expectantly to God to put an end to the contempt and scorn shown towards them. It expresses the cry of those who are always watching for and desiring Christ's return to save His people from an ungodly and hostile world. **124:** If God is not with us, we have no chance to escape the pitfalls of life or ward off our spiritual enemy. The dangers and troubles we face may seem so overwhelming that no one but God and His miraculous power can save us, yet, if God be for us, who can be against us? No foe or situation can defeat us when God is on our side.

Old Testament

1 Samuel 24 The Lord's anointed. This phrase refers only to Saul. In his appointed role as king of Israel, it does not mean that he was presently anointed by the Holy Spirit. David received no direction from God to remove Saul from the throne through assassination.

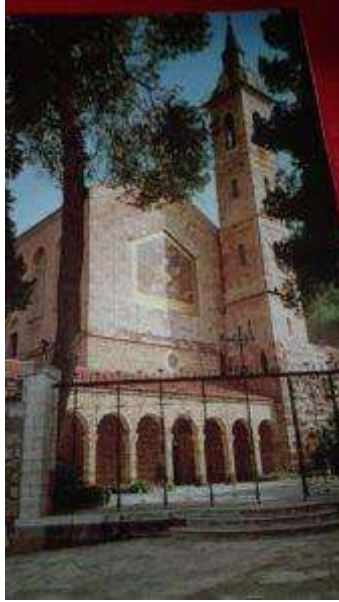
† New Testament

Revelation Chapters 14 and 15 Introduce the judgements showing the reward awaiting those who persevere in their faith in Jesus. Begins with describing 144,000 radical disciples who "follow the Lamb" whithersoever he goeth, symbolically represents the most consecrated and faithful of God's people of all time, who enjoy a special position and favor in heaven. These disciples remained pure by refusing to conform to the pagan world system . During the last half of the tribulation the gospel of Jesus will be proclaimed by an angel or angels to the entire world in clarity power and warning. It is a call to fear God give Him glory and worship Him rather antichrist. Babylon represents the political, religious and commercial system of the whole world at the time of the end. Those dying for their faith in Christ during tribulation are specially

blessed. They are released from persecution, torture and suffering and are taken to be with Christ.

Greetings and article for 24th June -St John the Baptist Day

1. Greetings and few interesting points and images shared by Bishop Surya Prakash and an article by **Mrs Sheba Mridula Sagar** "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near" Blessed St.Johns Day to you all, It is a day to commemorate the life and ministry of John the Baptizer, commonly known as the fore runner of the Messiah. He is supposed to have been born in a place called Ein Karim near Jerusalem. There are two churches there. 1. **The Church of Visitation**, which commemorates Marys visit to Elizabeth. The Magnificat (Song of Mary) is written in many languages including some from India on



the outer walls.

2. **The Church of John the Baptist**, commemorating the place where he was supposed to have been born. The song of Zechariah is written on the walls in several languages of the world including India.



Blessed day. **Bishop Surya 24.6.2020**

2. Special Article for **St John the Baptist Day** by **Mrs Sheba Mridula Sagar** **Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near** ([Click here to view PDF](#))

Verses for 25th June

Psalms

Psalms 132 to 135 : 132: Lord remember David. This psalm petitions God, to bless David's sons as they rule Israel. The expectations of this prayer were never fulfilled through David's descendants who were kings of Israel and Judah. Because the Israelites forsooth the Lord, God destroyed Jerusalem and the temple in 586 BC. The longings of this prayer will be fulfilled only in Jesus Christ, the greatest Son of David, of whose "kingdom there shall be no end." 133: Brethren to dwell together in unity. This psalm expresses the same spiritual truth as John 17, where Jesus prayed that His followers would be established in love, holiness and unity. He knew that the Holy Spirit could not operate among them if there were divisions based on sin and selfish ambitions. But fervent love for God and for one another, along with sanctification in the truth of God's Word, will bring God's nearness to and His anointing on His people. 134: This psalm speaks of all night worship and intercession in God's house. 135: This call to praise God is based on three facts 1) God has brought Israel into a saving covenant relationship with Him. 2) God is a living God, active in the affairs of the world and His people. God is near His people feeling compassion for those who serve Him.

Old Testament

1 Samuel 25:32 Godsent thee, God sent Abigail to prevent David from doing a great injustice to all of Nabal's men. David recognized, how wrong he had been in planning to take such extreme vengeance against them. At times God sends others to us with godly advice that opens our eyes and protects us from doing wrong. When others counsel us, we must judge our plans by God's Word and the direction of the spirit in our hearts.

† New Testament

Revelation 15 5 John saw a temple in heaven, like the tabernacle in the OT, that contained the Ten commandments. This signifies, that the judgements, are the result of God's opposition to sin and human rejection of His law and Word. 7 Full of the wrath of God. This will be the last of God's judgements, upon a wicked world before the reign of Christ. The fact that, no one can enter the temple until the plagues are completed means that, no one can intercede to stop the judgement. God has declared the end, His judgment will be complete and without mercy.

Verses for 26th June

Psalms

Psalm 136 : For his mercy endureth for ever. This repeated refrain, teaches us that, God's mercy and love are the foundation of all His works, on our behalf and the fountainhead of all our Thanksgiving. His love includes His mercy, faithfulness and kindness. **Psalm 137 :** Verses 1-9: This psalm of grief, recalls the lonely and desolate lives of the Israelites, while in captivity, in "Babylon". The people, longed for their native land and longed for God, to remember the wrongs done, to Jerusalem when it was destroyed. The Israelites even "hanged" their harps, their instruments of praise, because their sorrow was so deep.

Old Testament

1 Samuel 25:32 God sent thee. God sent Abigail, to prevent David, from doing a great injustice to all of Nabal's men. David recognised, how wrong he had been, in planning, to take such extreme vengeance against them. At times, God sends others to us, with godly advice, that opens our eyes and protects us from doing wrong. When others counsel us, we must judge our plans by God's Word and the direction of the Spirit in our hearts. 26:9 the Lord's anointed. David refused to kill Saul because he had been assured that God Himself would remove Saul and that David would become king at God's appointed time.

† New Testament

Revelation 16 Armageddon located in the north central Palestine, means" the mountain of Megiddo". It will be the centre of the battle of that great day of God Almighty .

Verses for 27th June 2020

Psalms

Psalm 139 : This Psalm, describes, various aspects of God's attributes, especially His Omnipresence and Omniscience, as these characteristics, relate to His care for His people. The God of heaven and earth, created us and has perfect knowledge of us. He is always with us and His thoughts are always directed toward us in every situation. **Psalm 140** : We should ask God to deliver us, not only from evil people, but also from the evil one.

Old Testament

1Samuel 28 Saul sought a prophetic word from God in the midst of his trouble, but received none. In despair, he then turned to a medium. Persisting in ungodly ways, instead of following the leading of the Spirit, cuts us off from God's help. Calling on Him will be useless, unless we turn from our ungodly ways.


† New Testament

Revelation 17 Chapters 17 to 18 portray the fall of Babylon the Great.

1. Babylon is the symbol of the whole world system under the antichrist, as dominated by Satan and manifesting wickedness politically, religiously and commercially.
2. Babylon will be completely destroyed, during the last three and half years of this age.
3. Religious Babylon will be destroyed by the antichrist, while political Babylon will be destroyed by Christ at His coming.

Verses for 1st July 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 1 Blessed is the man. Psalm 1 serves as an introduction to the entire book of Psalms. It contrasts the only two kinds of people recognised by God each with distinct set of life principles 1) The Godly, who are characterized by righteousness, love, obedience to God's Word. 2) The ungodly who do not abide in God's Word. This Psalm consists of four distinct scenes. 1) The psalmist begins by speaking of the people taking arrogant stand against God's Anointed. 2) A time will come when he will terminate human rebellion and fully establish His Kingdom. 3) God the Father promises to send His beloved Son. 4) Through the psalmist the Holy Spirit, exhorts humankind to be wise before Almighty God and to take refuge in Him. **Psalm 3** This Psalm laments to God. Nearly, a third of the Psalm belong to this category. God wants His people to call upon Him in times of need and trouble. **Psalm 4** This Psalm reveals the kind of persons who will be heard by God in times of distress. They must have a personal relationship of trust in God, an earnest desire for God's help and a Godly lifestyle. **Psalm 5** Firmly determined to seek God with all his heart David commits himself. Confident that God will hear his voice, David persists in prayer. He prayed in the morning. He looked up in expectation throughout the day and search for signs that God is at work in his life.  **OLD TESTAMENT 2 Samuel 1:10** The Amalekite lied about the manner of Saul's death. He was seeking honor and favor from David, but instead his fabricated story resulted in his death. **NEW TESTAMENT Revelation 18** This is God's prophetic call to the last generation of believers to come out of Babylon the great. The call to be separate from the world and false religious institutions has been an essential aspect of salvation throughout redemptive history. 18:9 God clearly indicates here His hatred for businesses and governments founded upon greed and oppressive power .

Bible Verses and Article for 30th June

PSALMS

Psalms 147:6 The lord lifteth up the meek. The word "meek" often includes the idea of suffering and refers to those who are afflicted. Because such people cannot cope with all life's problems and responsibilities by themselves. In humility they call upon God for His help and strength 1) God lifts up the meek and gives them support. The psalmist assured them of God's help and ultimate victory 2) As God supported the meek in the old Testament times, Jesus ministers to to the afflicted and humble under the new covenant. 3) Since God delights in those who are of a humble spirit of humility, so that, they may please Him.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Samuel 30:24 As his part is that goeth....so shall his part be that tarrieth. David determined that, those who remained at home to care faithfully for the belongings, with those who went to war were to have equal share in the spoils of battle. This principle may be applied, to the sending of missionaries to the nations to preach the gospel and helpful fill the Great Commission. Those who remain home, faithfully supporting and praying for those who go, will share equally in the heavenly rewards and in approval of God.

†NEW TESTAMENT

Revelation 18 18:2 Babylon the Great is fallen. Babylon the Great is portrayed, primarily in its commercial and political dimensions 1) Some believe Babylon here, represents a literal city or city state, that embodies the ungodly aspects of the city, described in this chapter 2) Here, her commercial system, has destroyed her political system and will be judged by God at the end of the tribulation.



Article: Paul and the 12 Apostles

Paul Paul, known as Saul (his Roman name) before his conversion, was born at Tarsus, in the Roman province of Silicia, about two or three years after the advent of the Redeemer. He was the son of Jewish parents, who belonged to the tribe of Benjamin, was reared according to the strict

religious-nationalistic party of the Pharisees, and enjoyed the high distinction of Roman citizenship. As a youth, he went to Jerusalem to become immersed in the Law and had as a teacher the celebrated Gamaliel. He acquired skill as a tent-maker, a work he continued even as an apostle. At the time of Jesus' ministry, he no longer was at Jerusalem; neither did he see the Lord during His earthly-life. Upon returning to the Holy City, Paul discovered a flourishing Christian community and at once became its bitter opponent. When Stephen impugned Law and temple, Paul was one of the first at his stoning; thereafter his fiery personality would lead the persecution. Breathing threats of slaughter against the disciples of Jesus, he was hurrying to Damascus when the grace of God effected his conversion (about the year 34 A.D.; see January 25, Conversion of St. Paul). After receiving baptism and making some initial attempts at preaching, Paul withdrew into the Arabian desert (c. 34-37 A.D.), where he prepared himself for his future mission. During this retreat he was favored with special revelations, Christ appearing to him personally. Upon his return to Damascus, he began to preach, but was forced to leave when the Jews sought to kill him. Then he went to Jerusalem "to see Peter." Barnabas introduced him to the Christian community, but the hatred of the Jews again obliged him to take secret flight. The following years (38-42 A.D.) he spent at Tarsus, until Barnabas brought him to the newly founded Christian community at Antioch, where both worked a year for the cause of Christ. In the year 44 he made another journey to Jerusalem with the money collected for the famine stricken community. The first major missionary journey (45-48) began upon his return, as he and Barnabas brought the Gospel to Cyprus and Asia Minor (Acts 13-14). The Council of Jerusalem occasioned Paul's reappearance in Jerusalem (50). Spurred on by the decisions of the Council, he began the second missionary journey (51-53), traveling through Asia Minor and then crossing over to Europe and founding churches at Philippi, Thessalonica (his favorite), Berea, Athens, Corinth. He remained almost two years at Corinth, establishing a very flourishing and important community. In 54 he returned to Jerusalem for the fourth time. Paul's third missionary journey (54-58) took him to Ephesus, where he labored three years with good success; after visiting his European communities, he returned to Jerusalem for a fifth time (Pentecost, 58). There he was seized by the Jews and accused of condemning the Law. After being held as a prisoner for two years at Caesarea, he appealed to Caesar and was sent by sea to Rome (60 A.D.). Shipwrecked and delayed on the island of Malta, he arrived at Rome in the spring of 61 and passed the next two years in easy confinement before being released. The last years of the saint's life were devoted to missionary excursions, probably including Spain, and to revisiting his first foundations. In 66 he returned to Rome, was taken prisoner, and beheaded a year later. His fourteen letters are a precious legacy; they afford a deep insight into a great soul.

Twelve Apostles Edit - According to the list occurring in each of the Synoptic Gospels (Mark 3:13-19, Matthew 10:1-4, Luke 6:12-16), the Twelve chosen by Jesus near the beginning of his ministry, those whom also He named Apostles, were **Simon** - called Peter (Grk. petros, petra; Aram. kēf; Engl. rock) by Jesus of Nazareth, also known as Simon bar Jonah and Simon bar Jochanan (Aram.) and earlier (Pauline Epistles were written first) Cephas (Aram.), and Simon Peter, a fisherman from Bethsaida "of Galilee" (John 1:44; cf. 12:21) Simon/Peter - Andrew's brother (Matthew 10:2; Mark 3:16; Luke 6:14) **Andrew** - brother of Peter, a Bethsaida fisherman and disciple of John the Baptist, and also the First-Called Apostle. (Matthew 10:2; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:14) **James** - John's brother, son of Zebedee, Boanerges, son of Thunder (Matthew 10:2; Mark 3:17; Luke 6:14) **John** - son of Zebedee, called by Jesus Boanerges (an Aramaic name explained in Mk 3:17 as "Sons of Thunder") - James' brother (Matthew 10:2; Mark 3:17; Luke 6:14) Known as the only apostle who was not martyred, and also has his own Gospel in the New

Testament. **Philip** - from Bethsaida "of Galilee" (John 1:44, 12:21) (Matthew 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:14) **Judas Thaddeus** - "Judas, son of James", (Matthew 10:3, Acts 1:13, Luke 6:16, John 14:22). Lebbeaus/Judas/Juda - , Simon's brother (Matthew 10:3; 13:55; Mark 3:18; 6:3; Luke 6:16; Jude 1:1) **Bartholomew** - in Aramaic "bar-Talemai?", "son of Talemai" or from Ptolemais, some identify with Nathanael. (Matthew 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:14) **Thomas** - also known as Judas Tomas Didymus - Aramaic T'oma = twin, and Greek Didymous = twin (Matthew 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:15) **James** - commonly identified with James the Less [4] - Matthew's/Levi's brother, son of Alphaeus (Matthew 10:3; 27:56; Mark 2:14; 3:16, 18; 6:3; 15:40, 47; Luke 5:27; 6:14-15; 24:18; Acts 1:13; 4:36). **Matthew** - the tax collector, some identify with Levi son of Alphaeus - Levi - James' brother (James the less) (Matthew 10:3; 27:56; Mark 2:14; 3:16, 18; 6:3; 15:40, 47; Luke 5:27; 6:14-15; 24:18; Acts 1:13; 4:36) and author of the Book of Matthew **Simon the Canaanite** - called in Luke and Acts "Simon the Zealot", some identify with Simeon of Jerusalem[5] -, Thaddeus' brother (Matthew 10:4; 13:55; Mark 3:18; 6:3; Luke 6:15) **Judas Iscariot** - the name Iscariot may refer to the Judaeen towns of Kerioth or to the sicarii (Jewish nationalist insurrectionists), or to the tribe of Issachar; (Matthew 10:4; Mark 3:19; Luke 6:16) He was replaced as an apostle in Acts by Saint Matthias It should also be noted that while the "Twelve Apostles" refer to the twelve who followed Jesus during his lifetime (and later Matthias in place of Judas Iscariot), Paul (formerly Saul of Tarsus) can be considered as another apostle. Notably, he begins many of his epistles with "Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus", or some variant. The original twelve were apostles sent out to the Jews, whereas Paul has the unique role of being the apostle to the gentiles after Christ's resurrection and ascent. The identity of the other apostle of the twelve, traditionally called St. Jude, varies between the Synoptic Gospels and also between ancient manuscripts of each gospel: Mark names him as Thaddaeus Some manuscripts of Matthew also identify him as Thaddeus Some manuscripts of Matthew name him as Lebbeaus Some manuscripts of Matthew name him as Judas the Zealot Luke names him as Judas, son of James or in the KJV: "Judas the brother of James"]] Luke 6:16 The Gospel of John, unlike the Synoptic Gospels, does not offer a formal list of apostles, but does refer to the Twelve in 6:67, 6:70, and 6:71. The following nine apostles are identified by name: Peter (Bowen) Andrew (identified as Peter's brother)the sons of Zebedee (plural form implies at least two apostles) Philip Tomas (also called Didymus (11:16, 20:24, 21:2)) Judas Iscariot Judas (not Iscariot) (14:22) The individual that the Gospel of John names as Nathanael is traditionally identified as the same person that the Synoptic Gospels call Bartholomew, and most would agree that the sons of Zebedee is likely to be a reference to James and John, while Judas (not Iscariot) probably refers to Thaddaeus, also known as St. Jude. Noticeably missing from the Gospel of John are James, son of Alphaeus, Matthew, and Simon the Canaanite/Zealot.

Verses for 7th July

PSALMS

Psalms 22 to 24 Psalm 22 This psalm, one of the most quoted in the New Testament is called "the psalm of the cross" because it so precisely portrays, Christ's anguished suffering on the cross. 1) It is a cry of anguish and grief from a godly sufferer who has not yet been delivered from trials and suffering. In this sense, all suffering believers can identify with the words of this prayer. 2) The words of the psalm express, an experience far beyond that of any ordinary human experience. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the psalmist both predicts the suffering of Jesus Christ in His crucifixion and points to His subsequent vindication 3 days later. **Psalm 23** Using a metaphor frequently found in the Old Testament, God compares Himself to a shepherd, in order to illustrate His great love for His people. The Lord Jesus Himself adopted the same metaphor to express his relationship to His people.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 4 to 5:12 2 Samuel 4:12 David's ascent to the throne was a bloody one, involving civil war between the tribes and much political maneuvering, all of which illustrates why God's perfect will was not a human king. **2 Samuel 5:6** David captured Jerusalem and made it the capital of Israel. Spiritually, it eventually became the most important city on earth, the centre of God's redemptive action for the human race. Jerusalem and its environs were the scene of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection, and there the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the assembled followers of Jesus. The Bible calls it city of God. **2 Samuel 4: 24** David emphasizes that those who want to worship and serve God and receive His blessing must be pursuing a pure heart and a righteous life. "Clean hands" are hands free from external acts of sin "a pure heart" refers to inward holiness, right motives and goals. Only a pure heart will see God.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Revelation 20:11 to 21:5 Revelation 21:4 The effects of sin, such as sorrow, pain, unhappiness and death are gone forever. For the evil things of the first heaven and earth, have completely passed away.

Verses for 8th July

PSALMS

Psalms 25 to 28 Psalm 25 The main theme of this psalm is, how God in His wisdom guides the faithful believer. Note the following truths 1) God has a plan for every believer. He had a plan for Adam, Abraham, Joseph and His people Israel. He had a plan for Jesus and Paul. God has a definite plan for each of His children. 2) God's plans are communicated to us by dreams,visions and prophesy. Through Holy Scriptures, and through the Holy Spirit dwelling on our hearts .

Psalm 26 The psalmist happiness does not come from associating with the world but being with the congregation of the Lord. Where God's presence and power are manifested among His people, there God's Glory dwells. **Psalm 27** The psalmist seeks the presence of God, It is one thing most treasured in his life and he prays for it with singleness of purpose. "Seek ye my face"

Psalm 28 After a period of trial, the Lord will respond and help us as a shepherd cares for his sheep.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 5:13 to 6:11 2 Samuel 5 :13 This verse reveals, David's most serious character weakness his strong desire for women. 1) David's failure to resist and subdue his sensual desires led him to violate God's command, acted cruelly toward Michal and committed adultery with Bathsheba, and to have her, got her husband Uriah murdered. 2) David's lust for women was the source of great sin, sorrow and suffering for his family. After his sin with Bathsheba, God sent judgement and calamity upon David for the rest of his life. **2 Samuel 5:19** One of David's greatest strengths was his conviction that God's help and direction were absolutely essential for success in battle, thus he made it a regular practice to inquire of the Lord. **2 Samuel 6:7** God struck down Uzzah because David and the high priest had not assigned the Levites to carry or handle the ark in accordance with the command of God. 1)God had ordered that no one was to touch the ark, the symbol of His presence and majesty. Uzzah's action grew out of his ignorance of God's word. 2) Uzzah is an example of the inherent dangers in having zeal for God without knowledge of God's Word and ways.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Revelation 21:6 to 15 Revelation 21:7 God Himself declares who will inherit the blessings of the new heaven and the new earth, those who faithfully persevere as Christ's overcomers.

Revelation 21:12 The wall of the city suggests the security,that the saved will have in the new city.

Verses for 9th July

PSALMS

Psalms 29 to 31 Psalm 30:6 Secure in his prosperity, the psalmist assumed that his wealth and success made him so strong that nothing could destroy his happiness. God then, withdrew His protective hand and brought serious trouble and helplessness into his life, causing him to experience the need, for God's continual care and presence. **Psalm 31** This psalm, is a deeply personal prayer, expressing distress and lament because of enemies, illness and desertion by friends. Jeremiah used a phrase from this psalm, to express his sorrow and fear. Jesus, also quoted from it while on the cross- Into thine hand I commit my spirit. These were Jesus last words before His death. These words have often been used by believers during appropriate time of danger and difficulty.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 6:12 to 7:10 2 Samuel 6:12 David brought the ark to Jerusalem and transformed that city into the worship center and capital of Israel. This time, he followed the instructions of the Lord and had Levites carry the ark. Two of David's greatest achievements as king centered around "the city of David" 1) his formation of Israel into a strong unified nation with its capital being the well fortified city of Jerusalem, and 2) the establishment in that central location of the worship of the Lord as Israel's greatest priority. **2 Samuel 6:20** Michal felt that David had behaved in a manner unbecoming to the king of Israel "Uncovered himself" means, David had laid aside his royal clothing and appeared in a simple tunic such as slaves wore.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Revelation 21:16 to 27 Revelation 21:16 The city is portrayed as a cube equal in length, width and height. In the Old Testament, the Most Holy Place where God met His people was a perfect cube. The size of the city indicates that, it will have sufficient space for all believers of all generations. "Twelve thousand furlongs" is approximately 1,380 miles. The entire city will be filled with the glory and holiness of God. **Revelation 21:22** God's presence and nearness will permeate the entire city, not just the temple. **Revelation 21: 24 to 26** The new Jerusalem, does not include the whole earth, for the city, has gates through which, the righteous may enter and leave. The new Jerusalem, may be the capital of the new earth. **Revelation 21:25** The light of the glory of God Himself, will fill the city, so that, there will be neither night there, nor need for "light of the sun". John says that, there is no night or need of the sun on the new earth as revealed by God.

Verses for 10th July

PSALMS

Psalms 32 & 33 Psalm 32 Maschil, this Hebrew word meaning, "to be wise or skillful. This is a teaching psalm. The only, truly happy people, are those, who have received forgiveness of their sins from God. Such blessed peace, is open to all sinners who come to the Lord. **Psalm 33** While the eye of the Lord is upon all the people, it rests in a special way on those who fear him.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 7: 11 to 29 2 Samuel 7:12 Using the voice of the prophet Nathan, God established His covenant with David. **2 Samuel 7:16** God's covenant with David was fulfilled ultimately in Jesus Christ. **2 Samuel 7:18** The Lord did not give David his covenant promise because of David's merit, righteousness or good deeds, rather, it was established, out of God's Mercy and Grace for the sake of His Word. David accepted God's promise in humility and faith.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Revelation 22: 1 to 9 Revelation 22: 2 Tree of Life. This tree, refers to eternal life to all in the new city. The healing leaves, picture the absence of anything that brings physical or spiritual harm.

Verses for 11th July

PSALMS

Psalm 34 & 35 **Psalm 34** The psalmist praises the Lord for a miraculous deliverance from great trouble. His testimony encourages, all afflicted believers, to believe that, they may also experience the goodness of the Lord. **Psalm 35** This psalm, is called an imprecatory psalm, meaning, the psalmist prays that, God will bring judgment upon the enemies of His people and overthrow the wicked. Although, believers are instructed, to forgive their enemies and pray for their salvation, a time will come when, we must pray for evil to cease and for justice to be done for the innocent. We should be vitally concerned, for the victims of cruelty, oppression and evil.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 8: 1 to 18 God had given David rest from all his enemies. As they were not in full possession of promised country, he subdued Philistine, Moabites, Syrians, Zobah and other neighbouring places. So, David reigned over all Israel; and David administered justice and equity to all his people. And Joab the son of Zeruriah was over the army; and Jehoshaphat, the son of Ahilud, was recorder; and Zadok the son of Ahitub and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar were priests; and Seriah was scribe; and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and David's sons were chief rulers."

† NEW TESTAMENT

Revelation 22:10 to 21 **Revelation 22:10** The Bible ends with Jesus promise that, He is coming soon, to which John responds "Come Lord Jesus"

Verses for 13th July

PSALMS

Psalm 38 This psalm, is an anguished prayer, for God to withdraw chastisement for sin. David is consumed with a sense of God's displeasure. His body is racked by disease and failing strength, and knows that his suffering is the result of his own foolish sin. He accepts his punishment, confesses his sin, and looks to God for help and salvation. All who have sinned and who suffer from guilt, remorse and a sense of God's judgement will be able to identify with is prayer. **Psalm 39** This psalm, continues the theme of psalm 38, for the psalmist is still under severe chastisement.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 9: 1 to 10: 5 Chapter 9 - records, how David kept his promise, to his close friend Jonathan. David had made a covenant with Jonathan, years before, to show kindness to his family always. Mephibosheth was the son of Jonathan. This is first of the two acts of kindness reported of David. David's remarkable kindness, stands in sharp contrast, to the two acts of wickedness (adultery and murder) that immediately follows.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 5: 1 to 20 **Matthew 5: 5 to 7** Sermon on the Mount, commonly called, Christ's Sermon on the Mount, contains a revelation, of God's principles of righteousness, by which all Christians are to live. **Matthew 5:3** Poor in spirit. We must recognize that, we are not spiritually sufficient, we need the Holy Spirit, to guide us to His kingdom. **Matthew 5:4** They that mourn. Those who mourn, are comforted by the Father. **Matthew 5:5** The meek. The meek will inherit the earth. **Matthew 5:6** Hunger and thirst after righteousness. It is essential, we be guided by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Matthew 5:7** The merciful. Bring the suffering people into, God's fold. **Matthew 5:8** The pure in heart. Those who are delivered from bondage of sin by God's grace and now strive to please and glory God. **Matthew 5:9** The peace makers. They now strive, by their witness and their lives, bring others- including enemies to be in peace with Gods help. **Matthew 5:10** Persecuted for righteousness sake Persecution and opposition will come from the world to believers. **Matthew 5:13** Salt of the earth. Believers must be godly examples. **Matthew 5:17** The law to fulfill. The believers, are obliged to keep ethical and moral principles, as well as the teachings of Christ and apostles. **Matthew 5:19** Great in the kingdom. Believers degree of faithfulness will determine, their degree of glory in kingdom of heaven. **Matthew 5:20** Except your righteousness. God requires more than outward deeds, heart and spirit that conforms to God's will.

Verses for 14th July

PSALMS

Psalms 40 and 41 Psalm 40: 6 Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire. The psalmist understood that, sacrifices and symbolic rituals were no substitute for genuine commitment and obedience. **Psalm 40:8** I delight to do thy will, refers to the coming of Christ into the world to bring redemption and his preaching of righteousness. **Psalm 41: 1** Blessed is he, who is considerate towards the poor. God has a special concern for the weak and helpless, and blesses those, who show loving kindness to the needy. **Psalm 41:9** Lift up his heel against me. Jesus quoted this verse, and applied it, to His betrayal by Judas Iscariot.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 10: 6 to 11:13 2 Samuel 10 : 6 to 19 David was angry at the humiliating act of Hanun king of Ammonites. David sent Joab to attack Ammonites. Joab defeated the Ammonites and their allies. **2 Samuel 11: 1 to 13** David his life of ease and comfort led to sin and fall. Consequent sin with a woman subsequent God's judgement resulted in tragedies in his family life. This is a serious warning to all believers. And they are written for our admonition as Paul emphasized. The correct response to sin is to repent sincerely, and seek forgiveness from God and be willing to accept Gods Punishment.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Mathew 5: 21 to 42 Matthew 5:22 To call someone names when angry, indicates, a hard attitude and puts the person uttering such words, in danger of God's punishment. **Matthew 5:28** Having a immoral desire and try to seek fulfillment is sin. Deliberately breeding such desires will lead to damaging consequences. Best to seek Gods help by the power of Holy Spirit, to strengthen control and impute good thoughts. Jesus is referring to love our enemies. When wronged, we are not to react in a spirit of hatred, but in a way, that shows, we have values that are inline with Jesus teaching.

Verses for 15th July

PSALMS

Psalms 42 to 44 Psalm 42:2 My soul thirsts for God. As water is essential for physical life, so God and His presence are essential for satisfaction and wholeness of life. True Believers will hunger and thirst for God and His grace, blessing and supernatural activity in their lives. **Psalms 42:6** My soul is cast down within me. In the midst of God's silence, we must continue to press on to know God and experience a greater measure of the Holy Spirit. We must not despair, but put our hope in God's steadfast love. **Psalm 44:9** But thou hast cast off. The Holy Spirit reveals that, suffering and persecution comes to faithful people, at the same time as God's people, we are assured of victory through Jesus Christ.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 11:14 to 12:10 2 Samuel 11:15 Instead of confessing his sin, initially, David sought to cover it up and thereby compounded his sin of adultery, by having, Uriah murdered and by taking Uriah's wife as his own. David was forgiven and restored to God only by a broken and contrite heart of deep repentance before God - Psalm 51 **2 Samuel 11:27** When this sin of David displeased the Lord, David became guilty of breaking sixth, seventh eighth, ninth and tenth commandments. His sins were made greater because he was a shepherd over God's people and the one who was responsible to administer justice and righteousness in Israel. **2 Samuel 12:9** Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the Lord? The prophet Nathan declared that David, in committing adultery, murder and deceit, was guilty of despising the commandment of the Lord. **2 Samuel 12 :10** God pronounced judgement on David and his family, that would be fulfilled in violence, for the rest of his life approximately about 25 yrs.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Mathew 5:43 to 6:8 Some people, during Jesus time, believed that it was permissible to hate one's enemies. However, the Law of Moses, called for kindness, even toward an enemy's animals. The law, commanded, love not only one neighbor but also for the stranger, enemy resident alien. **Matthew 6:1** Jesus condemns doing acts of righteousness and alms to be seen by others. **Matthew 6:6** In the morning, we commit our day to God. In the evening, give thanks for His mercies.

Verses for 16th July

PSALMS

Psalms 45 and 46 Psalm 45: 6 & 7 Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever. Because Jesus Christ loved righteousness and hated wickedness, God appointed Him above all others. This anointing refers to, the glory, blessedness and authority given to Jesus by God the Father. The oil of gladness is directly related to His anointing with the Holy Spirit. **Psalm 46: 1&2** Our refuge and strength. The power of ability, to face the uncertainties and adversities of life are found in God. Refuge, pictures a shelter from danger, indicating that God is our true security. Strength refers to, God's might when battling with foes. **Psalm 46:4** There is a river. God's river, is a continual flow of His grace, glory and power, in the midst of His faithful people. **Psalm 46:10** Be Still. The Hebrew meaning here is to let go, quit holding on to things that keep you from exalting God.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 12 : 11 to 13 2 Samuel 12: 11 Thus saith the Lord. God permitted things to happen to David. David's punishment was direct action by God. **2 Samuel 12: 12** Before all Israel. David repented sincerely and lived a life of example for the rest of his life. God's righteous judgment on a spiritual leader. **2 Samuel 12: 13** The Lord also hath put away thy sin. David's sin was forgiven by God. David was restored to salvation and fellowship with God. † NEW TESTAMENT
Mathew 6: 9 to 34 Mathew 6: 9 Lord's Prayer. Christ indicates areas of concern. The prayer contains 6 petitions, 3 concerned with holiness and three concerned with our personal needs.
Mathew 6: 16 Fasting. Fasting with prayer, has several purposes. a) to honor God. b) to humble ourselves before God. c) to mourn over personal sin and failure. d) for nation, for Church and the world. e) to seek grace for new task **f) against opposing forces.** **Mathew 6: 24** Mammon means money. To serve money is to place such high value on it. **Mathew 6: 25** Take no thought. Jesus forbids anxiety and worry, that shows lack of faith. **Mathew 6: 30** If God so clothe. These words contain, God's promise to all His children. God has promised to provide for food, clothing and necessities.

Verses for 17th July

PSALMS

Psalm 47 to 49 Psalm 47 C.H.Spurgeon Muse awhile, obedient thought, Lo, the theme's with rapture fraught; See thy King, whose realm extends, Even to earth's remotest ends. Gladly shall the nations own, Him their God and Lord alone; Clap their hands with holy mirth, Hail him MONARCH OF THE EARTH. Come my soul, before him bow, Gladdest of his subjects thou; Leave thy portion to his choice, In his sovereign will rejoice, This thy purest, deepest bliss, He is thine and thou art his." **Psalm 48:1** The city of our God. The city of God is Jerusalem, it will be established for ever. **Psalm 48:14** Godwill be our guide even unto death. The Lord has committed to be, the believers guide throughout life, death and beyond death. **Psalm 49** This psalm, stresses, the futility of trusting riches and all that this earth has to offer. The psalmist declares those, who live for God will be redeemed from the grave.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 13: 1 to 29 2 Samuel 13:1 Incest and murder broke out within his own home. As David destroyed the happiness of Uriah 's house, God destroyed the happiness of David's house. Many times, God lays upon the transgressor great suffering and sorrow so that he or she, as well as others, might fear God and turn away from sin. **2 Samuel 13: 21** Since David was not above reproach himself, he lacked the authority and moral courage to rebuke his son. **2 Samuel 13: 28** At times God uses human sin to achieve His purpose, punishing one wrong doer through the sin of another.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Mathew 7: 1 to 20 Matthew 7:1 Judge not Jesus condemns the habit, of criticizing others while ignoring, one's own faults . **Matthew 7: 7 to 8** Ask...seek...knock Jesus encourages perseverance in prayer. Asking implies consciousness of need and belief that God hears our prayers. Seeking implies, earnest petition along with obedience in accordance to the will of God. Knocking implies perseverance in coming to God, even when the response is delayed. **Matthew 7:11.** Christ promises that, the Father will not disappoint His children. **Matthew 7:14** Those who enter the humble gate of truth and repentance, deny themselves, to follow Jesus sincerely. Those who endeavor to obey Jesus commands and seek God's kingdom are few. **Matthew 7:15** Beware of false prophets. True Christian leaders, will seek to do, four things. a) Honor Christ b) lead the Church into sanctification. c) save the lost. d) proclaim and defend the Gospel of Christ and the apostles. **Matthew 7:16** Know them by their fruits.

Verses for 18th July

PSALMS

Psalms 50 and 51 Psalm 50:15 Call upon me in the day of trouble. The Lord invites, all faithful believers, to call continually upon Him, in times of need and trouble. God desires to hear our prayers, to help us and to have His name exalted, as a God who rescues His people. Psalm 50:16 to 23 What hast thou to declare my statutes? The Lord delivers a stern warning to religious hypocrites, those who pretend to be devoted to Him, at the same time ignore His righteous commands. **Psalm 51** A psalm of David. The title ascribes this psalm of confession of David, when Nathan the prophet disclosed, his sins of adultery and murder. David feared that God's presence and Spirit would depart from him. David pleaded earnestly with God to restore fully the joy of His salvation.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 13:30 to 14:12 2 Samuel 13:36 The king....wept very sore. After Absalom killed Amnon, David was grief stricken. The agony of David as a result of God's chastisement has no parallel in Biblical history. God permitted sin and Satan to inflict great suffering upon him. Though David was forgiven by God and did not suffer eternal punishment for his sin, nevertheless the temporal consequences, both natural and divine, continued unabated until death. The actions of Absalom and Amnon were only the beginning of the evil that God raised up against David because he had despised God and His Word, by killing Uriah in order to conceal his sin with Bathsheba.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Mathew 7:21 to 8:13 Matthew 7:23 It is always God's desire that, those who proclaim the gospel be righteous, yet, when an evil or immoral person preaches God's Word, God can still work in the hearts of those who receive His Word with commitment to Christ. God does not endorse any unrighteous preacher of the gospel, but He will endorse Biblical truth and those who accept it in faith. **Matthew 8:10** Great faith. The centurion faith surpassed anything, that Jesus found among the Jews, for it combined a loving concern for another person with great trust in Christ. This warns us, adhering to traditions and failing to believe in the power of Kingdom, will exclude us from God's protection.

Bible Verses and Article for 20th July

PSALMS

Psalm 55 and 56 Psalm 55:6 O that I had wing like a dove ...then would fly away. When we care oppressed by evil people or troubles of the world bring fear, anguish and anxiety, Only real solution is found in seeking refuge in God. We can do as the psalmist did in verses 16 to 18 call upon God in the morning, noon and evening and cast our burdens upon the Lord. **Psalm 56:8** I will praise his word. In times of fear and trouble, we should praise God for His righteous commandments. God becomes our helper and deliverer. **Psalm 56:8** Every tear shed by a faithful believer is treasured by God.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 14:13 to 33 We know that Joab was fiercely loyal to David, and he may have done this to protect David. Joab figured that it was dangerous to have Absalom stewing away in a distant country and felt that the safest thing to do was, to bring about reconciliation between father and son.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Mathew 8:14: to 34. Please read the article on healing. **Matthew 8:22** Let the dead bury their dead. Christ saying this sentence means Let the spiritually dead bury physically dead .

Article: Divine Healing - Christ the Healer

By Mrs. SHEBA MRIDULA SAGAR [Read more](#)

Verses for 21st July

PSALMS

Psalms 57, 58 and 59: 1to4 & 9to17 Psalm 57:1 In the shadow of thy wings. The shadow of God's wings, represents His love, protection, strength and gracious presence. We take refuge under those wings, when we come to Him in prayer and rely on Him in faith. In the shadow of His wings, we are protected from everything that would work contrary to His purpose for our lives. **Psalm 58:10** The righteous shall rejoice, when they seeth the vengeance. This verse expresses, the joy and satisfaction that, God's people experience, when evil is defeated and overthrown. Likewise, New Testament believers, must pray for the ultimate removal of all evil and also pray for the establishment of God's kingdom on the new heaven and earth. **Psalm 59:13** Although believers are instructed to forgive their enemies and pray for their salvation, until it is granted, we must pray for evil to cease and for justice to be done for the innocent. We should be vitally concerned for the victims of cruelty, oppression and evil.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 15:1to 23 2 Samuel 15:6 Absalom stole the hearts of men of Israel. Absalom conspired for four years, to steal the throne from his father, and the people increasingly turned against David. Absalom's success reveals that David, because of his sin and consequent failure to manage his own house, had lost much of the people's respect. His ability to lead, previously which was based on a persevering faithfulness to his God, was now eroded because of his sin and severely marred reputation. **2 Samuel 15: 14** Arise, let us flee. David was forced to flee from his own son, who now sought to kill him and gain the throne. David left Jerusalem, and wept, as he went. David, likely remembered his sin and recognized that, this was part of God's retribution. David, now a humiliated fugitive, humbly accepted God's dealing with him.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Mathew 9: 1 to17 Matthew 9:11 eateth....with...sinners. Jesus gives the rule to guide us, in our contact with nonbelievers, it should not be for pleasure or intimate friendship, but in order to do good to them and show them the way of salvation. **Matthew 9:15** then shall they fast. It is clear that, Jesus expected believers to fast after He was gone. Fasting in this age is a sign of believers longing for the Lord's return, a way to increase spiritual intimacy. **Matthew 9:17** new wine into old bottles. The new wine represents the gospel. This interpretation is supported by Christ's concern that, the gospel not be altered by other teachings.

Verses for 22nd July

PSALMS

Psalm 60, 61 and 119:161 to 176 Psalm 60: 1 to 12 O God thou hast cast us off. David confesses that, God's people suffered a defeat in battle, because God withdrew His divine help. In the same manner, we too experience spiritual defeat in our lives because, God's Spirit has been offended by our sin, pride and forsaking Biblical principles. **Psalm 119: 161 to 176** Those who love Your law have great peace, and nothing causes them to stumble". (v.165) Application: It is not peace as the world defines it, with which obedience to God's Word and ways endangered, but the peace which comes to a believer, who is living sin-free and in perfect character with His Word, what is here referred to as not stumbling. How well do we recognize that, biblical obedience is love-based? When we have an authentic relationship, where we truly love someone, we have no issues of submission or compliance because, incorporation of the rules is simply, a pleasant part of that experience. We, willfully limit our behavior. A common false teaching is that, "faith" is believing in something hard enough that, God is moved to materialize it, especially in the areas of personal finances, health and worldly comfort. It is a false faith, which is more akin to blowing out the candles on a birthday cake and wishing really hard for a pony. Biblically speaking, where there is no obedience to God's Word from a believer, then there can be no authentic faith.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 15: 24 to 16:14 At the beginning of 2 Samuel in chapter 2, you can read about how David became king. At first, he was the king over only the south of Israel. Most people in the north of Israel were still loyal to Saul's family. Then later they became loyal to David. 2 Samuel chapter 9 tells, the account of David and Mephibosheth. Ziba looked after all Mephibosheth's land (2 Samuel 9: 7-10). But now Absalom had become the king. David did not know whether Saul's family would remain loyal to him. Ziba brought David a generous gift. The food was suitable for people who were travelling. But David suspected, Ziba's intention. David probably did not know whom he could trust, at this time. Ziba said that Mephibosheth wanted to become king. David believed Ziba. David had given all Saul's land to Mephibosheth in 9:7. Now David gave it to Ziba instead as a reward. But in 2 Samuel 19: 24-30, Mephibosheth said that he had always been loyal to David. And Mephibosheth said that Ziba had lied. Mephibosheth had never tried to become the king in the past.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 9:18 to 10:4 Matthew 9:37 The harvest truly is plenteous. Jesus viewed each person as an invaluable everlasting soul. The harvest field represents, the lost, many of whom can be saved, if there are workers to proclaim Christ's salvation to them. **Matthew 9:38** Pray....that he will send. This verse expresses, one of God's own spiritual principles. Before He acts, God usually calls His people to prayer. Only after His people have prayed, the Lord does accomplish that work. It is clear from the text that, the kind of workers Jesus desires in His kingdom are

those who teach and preach the Gospel of the kingdom, heal the sick, drive out the evil spirits.

Matthew 10: 1 Power against unclean spirits. Jesus wants His followers to wage war against the forces of evil, by driving out evil spirits and healing the sick. This demonstration of authority in spiritual confrontation is considered, a continuing manifestation of the kingdom of God on earth.

Verses for 23rd July

PSALMS

Psalms 62 to 65 Psalm 62: 1 From him cometh salvation. This psalm, expresses that, believers in time of trouble and opposition should turn to God our ultimate refuge. **Psalm 63** Every Believer should pray, as David did, having deep longing for God, that can only be satisfied by intimate relationship with God, continually. **Psalm 64** This psalmist, prays to God for, protection from the plots and deception of his enemies. **Psalm 65: 4** Our greatest joy is, to be near God and to enjoy communion with Him. The Bible instructs us to, draw near God continually that, we might receive His Mercy and Strength.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 16:15 to 17:14 The wisest counsellors of that age were Ahithophel and Hushai. Absalom thinks he is sure of success, because he has both the wise counsellors support. On them he relies, and consults rather than consulting the Ark of God, though he had that with him. Absalom did not realise that these both were miserable counsellors and not wise. Hushai would never counsel him to do wisely. Ahithophel counselled him to do wicked things and later did effectually betray Absalom. For they that advise men to sin, certainly advise them to their hurt. After all, honesty is the best policy, and will be found so in the long run. Ahithophel gave wicked counsel to Absalom; to render himself so hateful to his father, that he would never be reconciled to him; this cursed policy was of the devil. How desperately wicked is the human heart! Hushai persuades Absalom that, Ahithophel's idea of going after David immediately is a lousy strategy. Hushai suggests an alternate idea, which serves to give David some time. Absalom adopts Hushai's strategy (good for David, but bad for Absalom). Hushai then sends warning back to David by the priests' sons outlining the adopted battle plan. Interestingly enough, Absalom has his own incidental spy who sees the messengers; they have to be hidden in a well to prevent capture by Absalom's men. Ahithophel takes the rejection of his battle plan really, really hard and hangs himself (verse 23). Verse 4 is a little disturbing in this passage where we see that "all the elders of Israel" sided with Absalom. A crowd will turn on you in a heartbeat...and their leaders too. Way too many people follow the crowd rather than God.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 10: 5 to 31 **Matthew 10: 7** Preachthe kingdom. The context (vv.1,8) makes it clear that, preaching of the kingdom of God, is to be accompanied by God asserting His power against the forces of sin, sickness and Satan. It is Christ's purpose that, the kingdom of heaven and its power be at hand, to bring salvation, grace and healing to God's people. **Matthew 10: 19** Given.....what ye shall speak. Christ's promise is seen being fulfilled. After the day of Pentecost, the Spirit was poured out in all His fullness, to give power to witness. **Matthew 10:26** Fear them not. The disciples, need not be afraid, because the Holy Spirit and the father will sustain them **Matthew 10:28** Hell. The Bible teaches that, death is not the end but continues forever,

either in presence of God or in a place of punishment. **Matthew 10:31** ye are of more value.
Jesus teaches that God's children are of great worth. He knows all your needs, trials and sorrows.

Verses for 24th July

PSALMS

Psalms 66 and 67 Psalm 66:5 Come and see the works of God. A community of believers must have, the works of the Holy Spirit manifested in their midst, that they can glorify God and say to others, come and see the works of God. We must witness to others on a personal level, giving testimony to God's saving grace and goodness in our lives. **Psalm 67: 1 & 2** God ..bless...us that thy way may be known upon earth. Believers should pray that, God will bless them and their families with His presence, love, grace guidance, salvation healing power and fullness of Holy Spirit, in order that, the lost, might seek Christ's truth and salvation

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 17: 15 to 29 Here was a wonderful effect of Divine Providence, blinding Absalom's mind and influencing his heart, that he could not rest in Ahithophel's counsel, and that he should desire Hushai's advice. But there is no contending with that God, who can arm a man against himself, and destroy that man by his own mistakes and passions. Ahithophel's former counsel was followed, for God intended to correct David; but his latter counsel was not followed, for God meant not to destroy him. God can overrule all counsels. Whatever wisdom or help any man employs or affords, the success is from God alone, who will not let his people perish. Ahithophel hanged himself from vexation, that his counsel was not followed. That will break a proud man's heart which will not break a humble man's sleep. He thought himself in danger, concluding, that, because his counsel was not followed, Absalom's cause would fail; and to prevent a possible public execution, he does justice upon himself. Thus the breath is stopped, and the head laid low, from which nothing could be expected but mischief. Absalom chased his father. But observe how God sometimes makes up to his people that comfort from strangers, which they are disappointed of in their own families. Our King needs not our help; but he assures us, that what we do for the least of his brethren, who are sick, poor, and destitute, shall be accepted and recompensed as if done to himself.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Mathew 10:32 to 11:10 Matthew 10:32 confess me before men. To confess Christ means to acknowledge Him as Lord of ones life, and to do so openly before others. **Matthew 10:34** I came not to send peace. Although Jesus Christ is called the " prince of peace" and truth, he must always be proclaimed in love. Faith in Christ, sharing God's word will bring separation and opposition from the world. **Matthew 10:41** prophet ... righteous man. our commitment should be to support, cooperate and encourage God's ministers, who are righteous and preach the truth. **Matthew 11:7** John preached the commandments of God without fear of others even though it costed him, his life.

Bible Verses and Article for 25th July

PSALMS

Psalm 68: 1 to 20, 24 to 35 69: 1 to 21, 29 to 36 Psalm 68: 5 A father of the fatherless. The fatherhood of God is emphasized both in Old Testament and New Testament. God delights in protecting the weak, lonely among His people. If you feel alone you should ask God to put you under His special care. **Psalm 68: 18** Thou hast ascended on high. This verse describes, God's triumphal march in Israel's history, culminating with the establishment of His rule in Jerusalem. It also foreshadows, Christ's ascension to heaven, to rule as head of the Church and to bring many into the kingdom of God. **Psalm 68: 19** Who daily loadeth us with benefits. Believers experience daily unexpected benefits and relief from burdens. **Psalm 69: 1 to 4** Save me O God. This expression of oppressive sufferings of a righteous person, also captures the feelings of the savior, as He underwent persecution from the ungodly and experienced the agony of the cross. Similarly any righteous believer who undergoes great trouble cry out to God, confident that as God delivered Christ from all sufferings, God will likewise deliver all His children at His own appointed time. **Psalm 69: 9** The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up. The psalmist bears rejection shame as he has spoken against sin and pleaded cleansing among God's people, for this he suffered .

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 18: 1 to 18 How does David render good for evil! Absalom would have only David smitten; David would have only Absalom spared. This seems to be a resemblance of man's wickedness towards God, and God's mercy to man, of which it is hard to say which is most amazing. Now the Israelites see what it is to take counsel against the Lord and his anointed. Let young people look upon Absalom, hanging on a tree, accursed, forsaken of heaven and earth; there let them read the Lord's abhorrence of rebellion against parents. Nothing can preserve men from misery and contempt, but heavenly wisdom and the grace of God.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 11: 11 to 30 Matthew 11: 11 Greater than he. This means, those who belong to the new covenant, have greater treasures of revelation and they will experience greater miracles after the outpouring of Holy Spirit. **Matthew 11: 19** gluttonous, and a winebibber. The Pharisees slanderous remarks that, Jesus is a glutton and winebibber, is blatantly false and intended to destroy His influence, as a teacher and righteousness. **Matthew 11: 28** Come and see. Jesus gracious invitation comes, to all who labour and are heavy laden. By coming to Jesus, obeying His direction, He will free you and give rest and peace and His Holy Spirit will lead you. **Article : James, Apostle and Martyr ([Read more](#)) Story of Saint James**
[embed]<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9WILnMPC10>[/embed] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9WILnMPC10>

Verses for 27th July

PSALMS

Psalm 72 and 73 Psalm 72 This psalm is a prayer of Solomon, as Israel's king that his reign will be characterised by justice, righteousness, peace, the destruction of evil and deliverance for the oppressed and needy. It also points to the reign of Jesus Christ over the world . **Psalm 73** God is good to Israel. This psalm, deals with a disturbing problem, though God is sovereign and just, the wicked often prosper. The psalmist who serves God faithfully has become discouraged. However, his confidence in God and in His ways is restored when God reveals the tragic end of the wicked and the true blessing of the righteous.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 18: 19 to 33 By directing David to give God thanks for his victory, Ahimaaz prepared him for the news of his son's death. The more our hearts are fixed and enlarged, in thanksgiving to God for our mercies, the better disposed we shall be to bear with patience the afflictions mixed with them. Some think, David's wish arose from concern about Absalom's everlasting state; but he rather seems to have spoken without due thought. He is to be blamed for showing so great fondness for a graceless son. Also for quarrelling with Divine justice, and for opposing the justice of the nation, which, as king, he had to administer, and which ought to be preferred before natural affection. The best men are not always in a good frame; we are apt to over-grieve for what we over-loved. But while we learn from this example to watch and pray against sinful indulgence, or neglect of our children.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 12:1 to 21 Matthew 12:1 Sabbath. The concept of sacred day of rest was instituted before the Jewish law. God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it. This indicates that from the time of creation God wanted one day in seven to be source of blessing for everyone, and not just Jewish race. Finally Sabbath can be seen as God's commitment to believers that He will carry out His will for them and that He is constantly available to act to meet their needs.

Verses for 28th July

PSALMS

Psalm 74 and 75 Psalm 74 O God why hast thou cast us off for ever ? The psalmist prays that, God's chastisement may not be forever. This prayer warn's us that, God's patience will not tolerate sin indefinitely, eventually sorrow and calamity will come. **Psalm 75:8** In the hand of the Lord there is a cup. The picture of God, giving the wicked an intoxicating drink is used in Scripture as a symbol of His wrath and punishment. David states " Thou hast made us, to drink the wine of astonishment means, wine that makes us stagger.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 19: 1 to 23 To continue to lament for so bad a son as Absalom, was very unwise, and very unworthy. Joab censures David, but not with proper respect and deference to his sovereign. A plain case may be fairly pleaded with those above us, and they may be reproofed for what they do amiss, but it must not be with rudeness and insolence. Yet David took the reproof and the counsel, prudently and mildly. Timely giving way, usually prevents the ill effects of mistaken measures. God's providence, by the priests' persuasions and Amasa's interest, brought the people to resolve the recall of the king. David stirred not till he received this invitation. Our Lord Jesus will rule in those that invite him to the throne in their hearts, and not till he is invited. He first bows the heart, and makes it willing in the day of his power, then rules in the midst of his enemies, **Psalm 110:2,3**. Those who now slight and abuse the Son of David, would be glad to make their peace when he shall come in his glory; but it will be too late. Shimei lost no time. His abuse had been personal, and with the usual right feeling of good men, David could more easily forgive it.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 12: 22 to 50 Matthew 12:28 The kingdom of God. God is beginning His spiritual rule on earth in the hearts of and among His people. He comes into the world with power. This power is not material or political. It is for Spiritual authority and humanity deliverance. **Matthew 12:29** Evil spirits will be active in the last days promoting immortality, violence and cruelty. Jesus power over Satan will overcome this attack. **Matthew 12: 31** blasphemy against the Holy Ghost. The process of discouraging the Spirit is grieving the Spirit, putting out the Spirit's fire, labeling good for evil, this leads to hardening of heart. The Spirit no longer strives to lead that person to repentance.

Bible Verses and Article for 29th July

PSALMS

Psalms 76 and 77 Psalm 76: 10 Wrath of man shall praise thee. God's wrath, expressed in judgement, against oppressors, of His people, brings Him praise from those who have been delivered. The wrath of the wicked can provide the occasion for God, to rescue His own and accomplish great things on their behalf. **Psalm 77: 1** Cried unto the Lord. This psalm portrays, a person in great trouble, who cried unto God, but could find no evidence, that God was responding. Continue to call on God day and night, while remembering God's past deeds of love.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 19: 24 to 43 David recalls the forfeiture of Mephibosheth's estate and Mephibosheth expressed his joy when king David returned. A good man contentedly bears his own losses, while he sees Israel in peace, and the Son of David exalted. Barzillai thought, he had done himself honour by providing the King David with supplies. Thus, when the saints shall be called to inherit the kingdom, they will be amazed at the recompence being so very far beyond the service they have extended, as referred in Matthew 25:37. A good man would not go any where to be burdensome to others; but rather, would prefer to stay in his own house. It is good for all. The men of Israel thought themselves despised, and the fiercer words of the men of Judah produced very bad effects. Much evil might be avoided, if men would watch against pride, and remember that a soft answer turneth away wrath. Though we have the right reason on our side, yet we should not speak with fierceness.


† NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 13: 1 to 17 Matthew 13: 3 Parables of the Kingdom. Parables are stories from everyday life that relate and illustrate certain spiritual truths. Their uniqueness is found in revealing truth to those who are spiritual at the same time concealing it from the unbelieving. **Matthew 13: 3** Sower. Jesus uses this parable to tell how the gospel will be received in the world. **Matthew 13:12** Whosoever hath.....shall have more. Jesus gives an important principle with regard to the believers reward and state in heaven. Their position and inheritance in heaven will be in proportion to their present commitment to God's ways and kingdom.

Article for 29th July 2020

COMPANIONS OF OUR LORD- MARTHA, MARY AND LAZARUS OF BETHANY By Mr Vijay Joel (Mr and Mrs Vijay Joel, are part of the Friday family prayer team of our church, Who intercede for all the church family, every Friday ardently) ([Read more](#))

Verses for 8th August 2020

 **PSALMS Psalm 95 and 96 Psalm 95** O come, let us sing unto the Lord. This psalm calls us to make sure that, our worship and praise are accompanied by hearts that are obedient to the Lord. It sets forth Israel's sin and rebellion in the wilderness as an example of those who err in what they desire, do not know God's righteous ways, therefore fail to receive what God has promised. **Psalm 95 : 7 to 11** To day if ye will hear his voice. The New Testament applies these verses to believers in Christ. The "rest" mentioned in verse 11 is no longer Canaan, but our salvation in Him. **Psalm 95:8** Harden not your heart. Those who worship and praise the Lord must also hear and obey His voice. **Psalm 96 : 2 to 3** Declare his glory among the heathen. Those of us who have received God's salvation and experienced His wonderful deeds must be eager to tell others that God can deliver and save them. The command to declare His glory among the nations, looks forward to the Great Commission that Jesus gave. To go into all the world and preach the gospel to all nations.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 1: 22 to 40 The people expressed great joy and satisfaction in the elevation of Solomon. Every true Israelite rejoices in the exaltation of the Son of David. Combinations formed upon evil principles will soon be dissolved, when self-interest calls another way. How can those who do evil deeds expect to have good tidings? Adonijah had despised Solomon, but soon dreaded him.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Mathew 18: 1 to 20 Matthew 18:1 Who is the greatest. We must understand greatness is not in position, office, leadership, power, influence. True greatness requires that, we become great in the right areas. We need to learn to be great in faith, humility, godly character, wisdom, self-control, patience and love. It is to have greatness of Christ, who loved righteousness and hated iniquity. **Matthew 18: 3** be converted. The change required by Jesus in conversion begins with becoming like little children. Because of our new relation with God, our whole view of life changes- relationships, habits, commitments, pleasures, basic part of salvation and sanctification. **Matthew 18 : 6** millstone ...around his neck. This verse means that, whoever spiritually destroys a child or a childlike believer will incur the greatest wrath of Christ. Parents should give special attention to these words. **Matthew 18:7** woe to that man Jesus warns that those who are instrumental in placing sinful things before others and especially children will receive ultimate condemnation. **Matthew 18:10** angels Scripture teaches that God often takes care of His faithful by means of angels. These angels carry a sincere interest and love for the children of God. **Matthew 18:15** if thy brother shall trespass. The offender must first be dealt with and admonished in private. Church discipline must be carried out in a spirit of humility, love, regret and self examination.

Verses for 10th August 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 100 to 102 Psalm 100: 2 come before his presence with singing. Individual and congregational singing should be done primarily "unto the Lord " verse 1, with joy and out of a conscious awareness of His presence. In this psalm we remember that, he created us and redeemed us, and that we are now His people and He is our shepherd. Verse 3 we sing of His love, faithfulness and truth that will endure forever. **Psalm 101: 1 to 8** mercy and judgement. This psalm pictures the kind of heart that, the king of Israel must have if he desires to rule according to the will of God. The attitudes expressed in this psalm also apply to those who rule in the Church of God. **Psalm 102: 2** When i am in trouble During times of great trouble in life, when nearly everything seems to be going wrong and we find ourselves helpless to change the situation, our only hope is to call upon God and place our lives and circumstances in His hands. The psalmist does this by crying out to the Lord for mercy and asking for His intervention. He is confident that God will answer his prayer and not forsake him.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 1:41 to 2:12 1 Kings 1: 50 the horns of the altar. The horns of the altar were symbolic of God's mercy forgiveness, and protection. Adonijah fled to the altar, believing that Solomon would not kill him in such a sacred place. **1 Kings 2: 4** If thy children take heed in their way. David had learned through painful experience and discipline that success and God's blessing depended on remaining in the ways and truth of God. Thus, David was deeply concerned that Solomon live a life of obedience and faithfulness to God. Yet Solomon and his son's ultimately failed to listen to David's admonition and turned from God and His covenant, the result was God's judgment on Solomon, the division of the kingdom and the eventual judgment exile and dispersion of both of both the northern and southern kingdoms. The ultimate fulfillment of God's promises to David was realized only in Jesus Jesus Christ. **1 Kings 2: 5** Joab...did to the two captains. David instructed Solomon to begin his reign by exercising justice on Joab, who was worthy of death for murdering Abner and Amasa. **1 Kings 2: 9** bring....down to the grave with blood. How sad that, David's final recorded instructions to Solomon was, to do an evil that he himself had sworn he would not do. David was thus breaking his word to Shimei.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 18: 21 to 19: 12 Matthew 18: 35 if yeforgive not. In this parable Jesus teaches that, the forgiveness of God, though freely given to repentant sinners, nevertheless remains conditional, according to a person's willingness to forgive others. In other words, if we are unmerciful and unforgiving toward another person, that will block the flow of God's forgiveness towards us. Note especially where Paul maintains that bitterness, resentment and animosity are totally incompatible with the Christian profession and be done away with. **Matthew 19: 9** except

it be for fornication. God's plan and standard is one man and one woman joined together in a Marriage dissolvable only by death.

Verses for 11th August 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 103 & 104: 1- 23 Psalm 103: 1 & 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul. This psalm expresses, thanksgiving and praise to the Lord, for the benefits and blessings that God bestows on the believing covenant people. We must never forget God's goodness to us or fail to be thankful for His blessings showered on us through the Holy Spirit. **Psalm 103: 3** forgiveth...healeth Forgiveness is the first and most important gift we can receive from God. Through it, we are restored to God and redeemed from destruction. **Psalm 103: 13** The Lord pitieth them that fear him. God shows mercy to those who truly fear Him. The fear of the Lord is a redeeming fear that motivates us to turn away from evil and receive our Lord's abundant blessings. **Psalm 103: 14** he knoweth our frame. God pities His children because He knows their weaknesses and infirmities. Even the best of His followers need His compassion. **Psalm 104: 1 to 35** God, thou art very great. This psalm is a hymn about, God's creation of all things and His care over all His created work.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 2: 13 to 28 1 Kings 2: 27 fulfill the word the Lord, which he spoke. Nearly 120 years before this, a man of God had given a prophetic word to Eli the high priest concerning God's judgement on his house. Part of his prophecy was fulfilled quickly, part of it covered a long period of time. Abiathar's removal from the priesthood was part of the fulfillment of God's word to Eli. God never forgets, He always watches to see that His word is fulfilled.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 19: 13 to 30 Matthew 19: 13 little children. Christ is deeply concerned about the salvation and spiritual upbringing of children. Christian parents should use every means of grace available to bring their children to Christ, for He longs to receive them, love them and bless them. **Matthew 19: 21** go and sell that thou hast. Jesus tested the heart of the rich young man in the area of his greatest weakness, his wealth. He was not willing to put Christ before and above his possessions. **Matthew 19: 29** receive a hundred fold. The rewards promised here are not to be understood in a literal way. Rather, the blessings and joy inherent in the relationships listed here will be experienced by the true disciple who sacrifices for Christ's sake. **Matthew 29: 30** first shall be last. The first are those who because of their wealth, education, status or talents are held in esteem by the world. The last are those who are unknown and considered unimportant. God values people not by outward appearance but by the sincerity, purity and love of their hearts.

Verses for 12th August 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 104: 24 to 35 and 105: 1 to 22 Psalm 105 give thanks unto the Lord. This psalm calls Israel to worship, praise obey and seek the Lord because God has miraculously directed their history in order to create and preserve the nation of Israel as a holy people who observe His righteous laws. The psalmist intends to inspire in the people gratitude for the Lord's care in their lives, joy in their possession of the holy land, and faithfulness to Him and His Word. Likewise, we as believers should look back and remember God's history with us, and be thankful and loyal to Him who gave Himself for us. **Psalm 105:4** Seek the Lord, and His strength. We are invited not only to seek the Lord's presence, but also the power and strength of His grace. **Psalm 105:15** Touch not mine anointed. In this context, the anointed ones are Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph .

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 2: 29 to 46 Solomon's words to Abiathar, and his silence, imply that some recent conspiracies had been entered into. Those that show kindness to God's people shall have it remembered to their advantage. For this reason Solomon spares Abiathar's life, but dismisses him from his offices. In case of such sins as the blood of beasts would atone for, the altar was a refuge, but not in Joab's case. Solomon looks upward to God as the Author of peace, and forward to eternity as the perfection of it. The Lord of peace himself gives us that peace which is everlasting. The old malignity remains in the unconverted heart, and a watchful eye should be kept on those who, like Shimei, have manifested their enmity, but have given no evidence of repentance. No engagements or dangers will restrain worldly men; they go on, though they forfeit their lives and souls. Let us remember, God will not accommodate his judgment to us. His eye is over us; and let us strive to walk as in his presence. Let our every act, word, and thought, be governed by this great truth, that the hour is quickly coming when the smallest circumstances of our lives shall be brought to light, and our eternal state be fixed by a righteous and unerring God. Thus Solomon's throne was established in peace, as the type of the Redeemer's kingdom of peace and righteousness.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 20 : 1 to 28 Matthew 20: 1 labourers into His vineyard. The parable of the workers of the vineyard teaches that, entrance to the kingdom of God is a matter of privilege, not merit. Christ here warns against three wrong attitudes. Do not feel superior because of fortunate position or assignment. Do not fail to share God's concern in offering His grace to all. Avoid the spirit of envy toward the spiritual blessings of others . **Matthew 20:26** shall not be among you. In this world those who "exercise dominion" and authority are considered great. Jesus says that in the kingdom of God greatness is not measured by authority over others but by giving one's self

in service. Believers must not try to reach the top in order to exert their rule. Rather they must give their lives in helping others and especially in laboring for the spiritual growth of all the people. **Matthew 20:28** ransom for many In the redemptive work of Christ, His death is the price paid for the release of men and women from sin's dominion.

Verses for 13th August 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 105: 23 to 45 & 106:1 to 18, & 42 to 48 Psalm 106 his mercy endureth for ever. This psalm recounts Israel's recurring rebellion and apostasy with respect to God's Word and ways. The psalmist confesses their sins and unfaithfulness and prays that God will once again visit his repentant people with full salvation and blessings. God's people should individually and collectively confess their shortcomings before the Lord. When we recognize our spiritual failure and then repent real revival and reformation can take place.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 3: 1 to 28 1 Kings 3:2 sacrificed in high places. Before the temple was built in Jerusalem as the central place of sacrifice, Israel offered sacrifices to God on hilltops or other elevated places, sometimes at the former sites of Canaanite, high places were destroyed. Altars of worship and sacrifice were to be built only at divinely designated places. **1 Kings 3: 9** Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart. Solomon began his reign with a devout faith and love for God. He prayed for wisdom and an understanding heart. God was pleased with his request and answered his prayer. **1 Kings 3:10** the speech pleased the Lord. God is pleased when believers sincerely seek and pray for godly wisdom and an understanding and discerning heart. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 20: 29 to 21:12 They were earnest in prayer. They cried out as men in earnest. Cold desires beg denials. They were humble in prayer, casting themselves upon, and referring themselves cheerfully to, the Mediator's mercy. They showed faith in prayer, by the title they gave to Christ. Surely it was by the Holy Ghost that they called Jesus, Lord. They persevered in prayer. When they were in pursuit of such mercy, it was no time for timidity or hesitation: they cried earnestly. Christ encouraged them. The wants and burdens of the body we are soon sensible of, and can readily relate. Oh that we did as feelingly complain of our spiritual maladies, especially our spiritual blindness! Many are spiritually blind, yet say they see. Jesus cured these blind men; and when they had received sight, they followed him. None follow Christ blindly. He first by his grace opens men's eyes, and so draws their hearts after him. These miracles are our call to Jesus; may we hear it, and make it our daily prayer to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Hosanna signifies, Save now, we beseech thee! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord! But of how little value is the applause of the people! The changing multitude join the cry of the day, whether it be Hosanna, or Crucify him. Multitudes often seem to approve the gospel, but few become consistent disciples. When Jesus was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved; some perhaps were moved with joy, who waited for the Consolation of Israel; others, of the Pharisees, were moved with envy. So various are the emotions and thoughts in the minds of men upon the approach of Christ's kingdom.

Verses for 14th August 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 106: 19 to 48; and 107: 1 to 22 Psalm 107: 1 to 43 give thanks unto the Lord. This psalm exhorts the redeemed to praise the Lord, for deliverance from desperate and dangerous situations. Hunger and thirst, slavery, illness almost to death, danger of storm. **Psalm 107: 6** they cried unto the Lord. Four times the psalmist uses this phrase, and four times it is stated that God delivered them out of their distresses. God frequently brings His children to a place where their own self sufficiency fails and where no human being can help. **Psalm 107:13** he saved them out of their distresses. Even when we have only ourselves to blame for our troubles, God desires to deliver us thus, even if we are experiencing great distress, knowing that God may be judging us, we can still put our hope in His mercy and cry out to Him in faith for His forgiveness and help.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 4: 1 to 34 1 Kings 4: 24 Peace on all sides During Solomon's rule, Israel as a nation reached its pinnacle of power, peace and prosperity. Politically and materially Solomon's reign was a success; spiritually, however, Solomon's slide into idolatry would leave his reign judged to be a failure. **1 Kings 4: 29 to 34** God gave Solomon wisdom. Solomon's wisdom involved a breadth of understanding and discernment, concerning life and his responsibilities as a king. He wrote 3000 proverbs, many of which have been preserved in the book of proverbs. To have wisdom and to follow wisdom are two different issues. Solomon's greatest failure was that he did not apply his own spiritual wisdom to every area of his life. Though he was the wisest man of his time he did not live as wisely as some of God's faithful people did. Solomon was brought to spiritual ruin primarily because he married so many foreign women. He did this to form political and military alliances. Solomon failed to trust God from keeping his kingdom secure from foreign threats. He found it difficult to resist from lusts of the flesh in his desire for women, also a character flaw of his father David. † NEW TESTAMENT **Matthew 21: 12 to 32 Matthew 21: 12** Jesus....overthrew the tables. This is the second time that Jesus entered the temple and cleansed it from unrighteousness. Those who bear Christ's name must know that hypocrisy, greed, self serving interest and exploitation of people in the house of God will bring God's judgment and righteous indignation. Christ is Lord of His church and demands that it be a house of prayer. **Matthew 21: 13** the house of prayer. Jesus makes clear that God's house was meant to be a "house of prayer" for Gentiles as well as the Jews. The buying, selling and money tables were taking place in the court of the Gentiles, making it impossible for the Gentiles/ nations to pray there. This was profaning of God's house and defrauding the Gentiles of their place of prayer and worship. God's house must not be misused for social, monetary, entertainment, showmanship. Whenever God's house is so used by worldly minded people, it once again becomes a den of thieves. **Matthew 21: 21** If you have faith. Jesus speaks of faith and prayer, stating that answers to prayer are related to our faith. Everything that is in harmony with God's will is possible to perform or receive for those who do not doubt.

Article and Bible Verse for 15th August 2020

[74th Independence Day](#) Article by **Mr. Samuel Madhukar David** Mr. Madhukar is the member of our church and he participates in various church activities- Bible Study, Church Music classes, coordinates and participates in seminars etc. He works as the Branch Manager of RUPA PUBLICATIONS INDIA- HYDERABAD BRANCH. ([Read more](#))

PSALMS

Psalm 107: 23 to 43 and Psalm 108 Psalm 108: 1 to 13 my heart is fixed. The psalmist is confident that ultimately God will deliver his people and give them victory over all their enemies. **Psalm 108: 9** Moab, Edom and Philistia were enemies of Israel on her eastern southern and western borders respectively.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 5: 1 to 18 I purpose to build a house unto the name of the Lord. Steps taken by Solomon to build the temple where God would continuously manifest His presence and glory. The temple was a dwelling place for God and a place for the people to gather to worship Him. It was built in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah and took seven years to complete. God gave David the plans for the by revelation of the Holy Spirit , and David provided many of the resources before he died.

† NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 21:33 to 22:14 Matthew 21: 33 to 44 the husbandmen This parable pictures Israel's rejection of God's beloved Son. This parable points to the guilt of the Jewish nation. They turned the kingdom of God into a private possession. **Matthew 21: 43** kingdom taken from you. Israel rejects the Messiah and His kingdom. As a result, the kingdom of God and its power were given to others, to those who respond to the gospel, whether they are Jews or Gentiles. This principle is still in operation. The kingdom and its power will be taken away from those who fail to remain faithful to Christ, rejecting His righteous ways, instead it will be given to people who will separate themselves from the world and seek first God's kingdom and righteousness. **Matthew 22: 11** Wedding garment. The wedding garment symbolizes a condition of readiness, present possession of true faith in Christ and continued obedience made possible through the grace of Christ. Christ refers to the man who was not wearing wedding clothes in order to make all of us examine ourselves and ask Lord is it I? **Matthew 22: 14** few are chosen The call to salvation goes out to the many. However, the few who are chosen to inherit the kingdom of heaven are those who respond to God's call, repent of their sins, believe in Christ and follow Him. Responding to the grace of God by the free exercise of our will brings us into the chosen people of God.

Verses for 17th August 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 111 to 114 Psalm 111: 10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. This truth serves as the foundation for the Old Testament's wisdom and literature. Fear of and reverence for God are fundamental to the believers relationship with God. Fearing the Lord makes us concerned and alert that we do not offend our holy God. Without this foundation, no true wisdom exists. **Psalm 112: 3** Wealth and riches. It is God's provision and intention that we believers be healthy and our lives be accompanied by His blessings. Concerning prosperity, both physical and spiritual, God promises to supply the needs of our lives according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. **Psalm 113: 1 to 9** Praise ye the Lord. This psalm reiterates the two fold Biblical principle that God gives grace to the humble and has compassion on the poor and needy.

OLD TESTAMENT

1Kings 6: 1to 22 1 Kings 6: 1 four hundred and eightieth year after. This verse is crucial in establishing the date for the exodus of Israel out of Egypt. Solomon began to build the house of the Lord about 966 BC. **1 Kings 6: 2** the house ...for the Lord. The temple, housing the ark of the covenant symbolized God's presence and character among His people. The temple communicated the truth that God desired to dwell in the midst of His people. **1 Kings 6: 12** if thou wilt walk in my statutes. The books of 1 and 2 kings record the tragic history of the persistent failure of God's people to meet.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 22: 5 to 46 Matthew 22: 11 Wedding garment. Symbolizes a condition of readiness, present possession of true faith in Christ and continued obedience made possible through the grace of Christ. **Matthew 22: 14** few are chosen. The call to salvation goes out to many, however the few who are chosen to inherit the kingdom of heaven are those who respond to God's call, repent of their sins, believe in Christ and follow Him. **Matthew 22: 30** they neither marry. Jesus teaching does not mean that a husband or wife will lose their particular identity and thus not recognize each other. Rather, the relation will be a deeper, spiritual one that is no longer governed by the marriage union as on earth. **Matthew 22: 37** love the Lord thy God. Love the Lord with love and obedience, and seek His honor and glory in the earth. **Matthew 22: 39** love thy neighbor. Children of God are required to love all people.

Verses for 18th August 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 115 to 117 Psalm 115: 1 not unto us, but unto thy name give glory. We must never seek glory for ourselves, but rather always desire to manifest God's glory and honor His name before the world. We must determine to live in such a way that we will not bring shame or reproach upon the name of Christ or His church. **Psalm 115: 9** trust thou in the Lord. Those who trust in the Lord, rather than in the things that can be seen, receive the Lord as their help and shield. He remembers those who fear Him and promises to bless them. God rules in the heavens, but He has delegated the rule of the earth to the children of men. **Psalm 116** I love the Lord. This psalm expresses, thanksgiving to the Lord for deliverance from death and declares the praise of all afflicted believers who have been rescued by the Lord and have been spared death or great calamity. **Psalm 116: 12** What shall I render unto the Lord ..? Gratitude flows the hearts of all those who have experienced salvation from the Lord, they will express it by their love, loyalty righteous living , thanksgiving and a firm resolve to obey the Lord. **Psalm 116: 15** Precious...is the death of his saints. The Lord carefully watches over the lives of his faithful people. He exercises control over the circumstances of their deaths. When they are dying he is there with them. Their deaths which are of great value to Him, are the occasion when they are delivered from all evil, are taken from this life to blessed victory and are brought into heaven to see Jesus face to face. **Psalm 117: 1** all ye nations. Paul quotes this verse in Romans 15:11 to prove that the Old Testament anticipated God's offer of salvation to people of all nations.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 6: 23 to 7: 12 All Solomon's buildings, though beautiful, were intended for use. Solomon began with the temple; he built for God first, and then his other buildings. The wonderful magnificence of all these buildings is taken notice of in verse 9, etc. All the materials were the best of their kind. The foundation-stones were costly for their size, four or five yards square, or at least so many yards long (v. 10), and the stones of the building were costly for the workmanship, hewn and sawn, and in all respects finely wrought, verse. 9 and 11. The court of his own house was like that of the temple (v. 12, compare ch. 6:36); so well did he like the model of God's courts that he made his own by it.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 23: 1 to 24 Matthew 23: 13 woe unto you ...hypocrites Jesus words constitute His most severe denunciation. His words were directed against religious leaders and teachers who had rejected at least a part of the revealed Word of God and replaced it with their own ideas and interpretations. The Bible commands believers to beware of such false religious leaders, consider them to be unbelievers and refuse to support their ministry or have fellowship with them.

Verses for 19th August

PSALMS

Psalms 118 & 119:1 to 24 Psalm 118 This psalm praises the Lord for His everlasting love for His people. It may have been the last words sung by Jesus and His disciples before He went to the Garden of Gethsemane where He was arrested and led to His death. It will also be sung before the return of Christ at the end of age. **Psalm 118: 6** The Lord is on my side. Those who take refuge in the Lord are assured that He is for them and with them to give help and strength. **Psalm 118: 22 to 23** The stone which the builders refused. Jesus applied these verses to Himself because He was thrown aside by His own people but afterwards became the principal stone of God's new house, the church. **Psalms 118: 24** This is the day. The context shows the day referred to here is a day of salvation or redemption. **Psalm 118: 25** Save now. This phrase becomes Hosanna in the greek translation of Old Testament. It prophesies the salvation through Christ's sacrifice, and was sung by the crowds during Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 7 : 13 to 40 The two brazen pillars in the porch of the temple, some think, were to teach those that came to worship, to depend upon God only, for strength and establishment in all their religious exercises. "Jachin," God will fix this roving mind. It is good that the heart be established with grace. "Boaz," In him is our strength, who works in us both to will and to do. Spiritual strength and stability are found at the door of God's temple, where we must wait for the gifts of grace, in use of the means of grace. Spiritual priests and spiritual sacrifices must be washed in the laver of Christ's blood, and of regeneration. We must wash often, for we daily contract pollution. There are full means provided for our cleansing; so that if we have our lot for ever among the unclean it will be our own fault. Let us bless God for the fountain opened by the sacrifice of Christ for sin and for uncleanness.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 23: 25 to 24: 14 Matthew 23: 28 outwardly appear righteous. Jesus continues His speech about religious leaders and ministers of His day whose public conduct appeared righteous but whose hearts were full of hypocrisy, pride, lust and wickedness. They were like painted tombs, beautiful and attractive on the outside, yet with corruption hidden inside. **Matthew 23: 37** O Jerusalem, Jerusalem ...how often would I have gathered thy children together. The tears of our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ over Jerusalem's stubbornness bear witness to the freedom of the human will to resist the grace and will of God. **Matthew 23: 39** Ye shall not see me...till. The city of Jerusalem repeatedly rejected Jesus message. Therefore, in sorrow Christ must withdraw and would not be seen by Israel again until they acknowledge their offence and call for the

Messiah to come as their Deliverer. **Matthew 24: 11** many false prophets shall rise. As the last days draw to a close, false teachers and preachers will be exceedingly prevalent.

Verses for 20th August 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 119: 25 to 72 Psalm 119: 27 Make me to understand the way of thy precepts. God's word can only be understood fully with His help. Thus we should continually pray for God, through His Holy Spirit, and draw near to us, to increase our understanding and to teach us His truth. **Psalm 119: 47 to 48** I will delight ...I have loved thy commandments. A major emphasis of Psalm 119 is the psalmist delight in and heartfelt love for the Word of God . **Psalm 119: 50** my comfort in my affliction, for thy word hath quickened me. God has ordained that His Word, made powerful by the Spirit, will bring comfort, hope and strength to His faithful as we experience trouble and sorrow. Because God's Word is living and active. **Psalm 119: 57** Thou art my portion. The psalmist's life centers around God and His Word, if we desire to know God and His love we must abide in His Word seek, God's favor and His grace with our whole hearts. **Psalm 119: 67** I was afflicted ...now have I kept thy word. God sometimes allows us to experience hardships and troubles in order to draw us to His Word and to Himself.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 7: 41 to 8: 11 1 Kings 8: 1 Ark of the covenant of the Lord. The ark of the covenant was the only article of furniture in the Most Holy Place. It was a rectangular chest 3.75' x 2.25'x2.25' (feet), made of acacia wood and overlaid inside and out with pure gold. The ark originally contained 3 reminders of God's kingship over Israel. 1) the stone tables on which the ten commandments were engraved 2) a gold jar full of manna 3) Aaron's almond rod that supernaturally budded. However, by Solomon's time the ark contained only two tables of stone. Fitting over the top of the ark was the "mercy seat" on which the blood of sacrifices was sprinkled once a year by the high priest on the day of Atonement.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 24: 15 to 51 Matthew 24: 15 to 28 great tribulation. This entire section deals with the great tribulation. **Matthew 24: 29** shall the sun be darkened. Immediately after the tribulation, there will occur spectacular cosmic signs that will precede the appearing of Christ and give clear warning of His return.

Verses for 21st August 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 119: 73 to 120 Psalm 119: 98 commandments have made me wiser. Through our devotion to God's Word we learn to see life as God sees it, value what He values and love what He loves. We attune ourselves to the thoughts of God. **Psalm 119: 105** Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and Light unto my path. God's Word contains the spiritual principles that will help us avoid many sorrows, pitfalls and tragedies brought on by wrong decisions and choices, consequently, we must treasure its wisdom and steadfastly hold on to precepts in all life situations.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 8: 12 to 32 1 Kings 8: 13 built thee a house to dwell in. The fact that God lived in the temple did not mean that he dwelt in no other place, for God is everywhere. What it did mean was God's presence and glory would be manifested in a special way in the temple, in the same manner, Christ's presence with His people is manifested in a special way when they gather together in His name. **1 Kings 8: 29** My name. The name of God represents His presence, character and glory.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 25: 1 to 30 Parable of the ten virgins. The parable of the ten virgins emphasis that all believers must constantly look to their own spiritual condition in light of Christ coming at an unknown and unexpected time. We all need to be prepared always ready for His coming. **Matthew 25:4** Jesus in a series of illustrations stresses the requirement of faithfulness and watchfulness until He returns. **Matthew 25: 15** The parable of talents warns us that our place and service in heaven will depend on the faithfulness of our lives and service here. A talent represents our abilities time, resources and opportunities to serve God while on earth. **Matthew 25: 29** every one that hath. Jesus gives an important principle with regard to the believer's reward and state in heaven. What believers receive in the future kingdom of God will depend on what they possess of it now.

Article and Bible Verse for 22nd August 2020

Mary Magdalene- Tables being turned. Article by Miss. Mesa Chris Nidhi ([Read more](#))
Nidhi is a teacher by profession, who loves investing in young lives. She loves to spend a major part of her time with the young, innocent and beautiful hearts, as it makes her more of a learner. Nidhi serves the Lord by being a part of the Sunday School teaching, and leading worship; the Youth Fellowship and also by participating in various programs of the Choir.

PSALMS

Psalm 119: 121 to 160 Psalm 119: 121 leave me not to mine oppressors. Believers must appeal for God's help for our urgent needs we have in our lives. **Psalm 119: 136** Rivers of water run down mine eyes. Those who love God's Word will experience grief sorrow even anger, when they see God's laws rejected and scorned by the ungodly, these feelings will undoubtedly continue until the return of Christ. **Psalm 119: 151** Thou are near, O Lord. The psalmist experiences God's nearness in times of trouble because he loves the Lord and is devoted to meditating on His Word.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 8: 33 to 53 1 Kings 8: 39 forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways. Solomon understood that God would forgive His people if they turned from their sin and sincerely repented in regret and sorrow, he also acknowledged that God might have to discipline them, in order that they may fear thee all the days that they live in the land. **1 Kings 8: 46** there is no man that sinneth not. Solomon's words are not an attempt to justify his or Israel's sins, rather he was expressing the truth that since sin is universally present, turning away from God is always a possibility for His people. At the same time there is also a possibility that people will repent and return to God and be delivered.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 25:31 to 26:16 Matthew 25: 32 sheep from the goats. The sheep and goat judgement occurs after the tribulation and Christ's return to earth but before the beginning of His earthly reign. At the time of Christ's coming the saved and the lost who are living on earth and who survived tribulation are still mingled together. The judgement involves separation of the wicked from the righteous. **Matthew 25: 41** devil and his angels. Satan's in its rebellion against God drew with him a third of the heavenly angels. A part of these are bound in hell while the rest are free and exist under Satan's dominion and control. **Matthew 26: 2** passover The Passover was a spring festival associated with the historical episode of Israel's departure from Egypt. It's celebrated as the passing by of the destroying angel over the Hebrews houses because the blood of the lambs had been put on the door posts and frames of the houses. **Matthew 26: 13** for a memorial of her. The Lord has ordained that this story of Mary should always accompany the preaching of the gospel. This is because it exemplifies the depth of love for Jesus that should characterize all disciples. The woman's act was the expression of her deep devotion to the

profound love to the Master. The Christian faith is first of all a personal ministering into the Lord Jesus Himself. We learn here that our heartfelt attachment to the love of Jesus is the most valuable aspect of our relationship to Him.

Article and Bible verses for 24th August 2020

Saint Bartholomew Day August 24th , BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE AND MARTYR
Article by Miss Joyce Thompson ([Read more](#)) About Joyce: Joyce works as an Analyst and an Entrepreneur. She serves as a Pastorate Committee member; house visits- sick and elderly visits- Secretary; Area Coordinator and the Sunday School teacher for Intermediates class. She also participates in various activities of the church. Joyce sincerely requests your prayers, to carry forward the legacy of her great grand parents, the Wesley's and Thompson's, the pioneers of the Medak Diocese, to accomplish the great commission.

PSALMS

Psalms 126 to 131 Psalm 126: 1 When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion. This is a technical phrase that also means, When the Lord restored the prosperity of Zion. This restoration partially took place in 701 BC when Sennacherib's threat to take Jerusalem was turned back in fulfillment of prophecy, and the surrounding nations sent presents to Hezekiah. The restoration was fulfilled in even greater measure when the Jews returned to Jerusalem from Babylon in 538 BC **Psalm 126: 5 to 6** They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. Two stages of the believer's life are mentioned here, sowing and reaping. If we faithfully sow in tears and in prayer God's Word promises that we will reap joyfully the fruit of our faithful sowing. Let us sow, therefore, in faith and faithfulness, in intercession and righteousness, regardless of whatever pain we may be experiencing, knowing that there will be great harvest of God's blessings. **Psalm 127: 1 to 5** Except the Lord build. Only what is from God and has His blessing is truly valuable in life. Conversely, if God is not in our lives, activities, goals and families, then all is in vain and will end in frustration and disappointment. Thus we should seek God's blessing and guidance in all things from the very beginning of our lives. **Psalm 127: 1** build the house. As we labour to build God's house on earth, we must make sure we build according to His pattern and by His Spirit, not according to mere human ideas, plans and efforts. **Psalm 127: 2** he giveth His beloved sleep. It is God's will that we enjoy peaceful sleep and anxiety- free lives. The text also implies that God keeps on giving even when we are asleep. **Psalm 127: 3** children are an heritage of the Lord. Under the old covenant a large family was considered a blessing. All children of believers must be viewed as gifts of God requiring wise and faithful stewardship. **Psalm 130: 1** Out of the depths have I cried out unto thee. Those who reap the misery and torment of their own sins can cry out to God with assurance that God will forgive, heal and bring them back into fellowship with Himself. God desires to show mercy to all who are in trouble, saving them from the slavery of sin in order that they might know His love, care and goodness.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 8: 54 to 9: 9 1 Kings 8: 57 The Lord our God be with us. Solomon's prayer is an ideal model for what we should desire in our walk with the Lord. 1) For the Lord's protecting presence and help, 2) For God to confirm His Word by fulfilling His good promises 3) for a work of divine grace in their hearts to keep God's commandments and to love His righteous ways, 4) for God to answer daily prayers and to supply daily needs, 5) for increased understanding of God's

great and awesome nature, 6) for a heart totally devoted to God and His will. **1 Kings 9: 3** the Lord said to him. God's response to Solomon's prayer affirmed that He had heard and answered, however God added that He would establish Solomon's throne and the kingdom of Israel only if Solomon and the people would remain faithful.

1 Kings 9: 7 this house ...will I cast out of my sight God said He would no longer manifest His presence, power and glory in the temple if the people failed to follow His ways sincerely, this warning applies under the new covenant as well. If the Church fails to obey the words of Christ and the teachings of New Testament apostles...

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 26: 17 to 46 **Matthew 26: 26** Take, eat , this is my body ...my blood. When Christ said of the bread, This is my body, He meant that it represented His body. The cup represents the blood of Christ shed for the ratification of the new testament. **Matthew 26: 28** remission of sins. Forgiveness is necessary because we all have sinned. In order to receive forgiveness, there must be repentance, faith and confession of sin. **Matthew 26: 37** he began to be sorrowful. The sufferings of Christ, stage one, both the physical and spiritual of Jesus Christ began in Gethsemane. His sweat was like great drops of blood. **Matthew 26: 39** let this cup pass. The separation from God the ultimate penalty for sin. Jesus prayed that His physical death might be accepted as full payment for the sin of sinners .

Verses for 25th August 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 132 to 135 Psalm 132 Lord, remember David. This psalm petitions God to bless David's son as they rule Israel. This blessing will become a reality only when God abides in His temple and among His people. **Psalm 133** brethren to dwell together in unity. This psalm expresses the same spiritual truth, where Jesus prayed that His followers would be established in love, holiness and unity. He knew that the Holy Spirit could not operate among them if there were divisions based on sin and selfish and selfish ambitions. **Psalm 134** all night stand in the house of the Lord. This psalm speaks of all - night worship and intercession in God's house. **Psalm 135** Praise ye the Lord. This call to praise God is based on three facts. 1) God has brought Israel into a saving covenant relationship with Him, 2) God is a living God, active in the affairs of the world and His people, 3) God is near His people feeling compassion for those who serve Him.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 9:10 to 10:13 Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities. Hiram did not like them. If Solomon would gratify him, let it be in his own element, by becoming his partner in trade, as he did. See how the providence of God suits this earth to the various tempers of men, and the dispositions of men to the earth, and all for the good of mankind in general. Here is a further account of Solomon's greatness. He began at the right end, for he built God's house first, and finished that before he began his own; then God blessed him, and he prospered in all his other buildings. Let piety begin, and profit follow; leave pleasure to the last. Whatever pains we take for the glory of God, and to profit others, we are likely to have the advantage. Canaan, the holy land, the glory of all lands, had no gold in it; which shows that the best produce is that which is for the present support of life, our own and others; such things did Canaan produce. Solomon got much by his merchandise, and yet has directed us to a better trade, within reach of the poorest. Wisdom is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold, Proverbs 3:14.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 26 : 47 to 68 Matthew 26: 57 laid hold on Jesus. A study of the events from Christ's arrest to His crucifixion can be very rewarding. The order is as follows 1) the arrest 2) The religious trial before Annas and before Caiaphas. 3) The denial by Peter 4) The condemnation by the Sanhedrin. 5) the death of Judas 6,) the civil trial before Pilate, 7) the trial before Herod, who sent Him back to Pilate 8) the mockery, after which He was beaten and then led away to be crucified. 9) The procession to Golgotha 10) the crucifixion. **Matthew 26: 67** they spit...buffeted ...smote. The sufferings of Christ, stage two. After His arrest at night and abandonment by His disciples, Jesus was brought before Caiaphas and the Jewish council. He was blindfolded, mocked repeatedly, spat on and struck in the face.

Verses for 26th August 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 136, 137: 1 to 6; 138. Psalm 136 for thy Mercy endureth for ever. This repeated refrain teaches us that God's mercy and love are the foundation of all His works on our behalf and the fountainhead of all our thanksgiving. His love includes His mercy faithfulness and kindness.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 10:14 to 11:13 1 Kings 11 This chapter describes Solomon's spiritual decline and its results. Solomon began as a man who loved the Lord, walked according to His statutes and built His temple. He experienced God's love, grace and salvation, he was given special spiritual understanding and he wrote Holy Scripture under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Solomon's fatal error was to seek power, success, wealth and sensual pleasure through compromise with and tolerance of idolatry and sin. Solomon sought unholy alliances with heathen nations, other nations, many foreign wives and concubines more and more wealth and glory. God's judgement on Solomon resulted in the division of Israel into two kingdoms.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 26: 69 to 27:10 Matthew 27: 2 delivered him to ..Pilate. The sufferings of Christ, stage three in the morning, Jesus battered and exhausted, was taken to the Governor's palace in Jerusalem to be interrogated by Pilate. Barabbas was released and Jesus was scourged and handedover to be crucified.

Verses for 27th August 2020

PSALMS 🎸

Psalm 139; 140 :1 to 8, 12 to 13; & Psalm 141 Psalm 139 thou hast... searched me. This psalm describes various aspects of God's attributes, especially His omnipresence and omniscience as these characteristics relate to His care for His people. The God of heaven and earth created us and has perfect knowledge of us , He is always with us, and His thoughts are always directed toward us in any situation. **Psalm 140** Deliver me, O Lord, from the evil man. We should ask God to deliver us from the evil one . As our greatest enemy, he seeks to snare and destroy us. **Psalm 141** Incline not my heart to any evil thing. Those who love the Lord should pray that God will keep them from desiring, speaking or doing any evil. We must shun all compromise with wicked persons and refuse to be entertained by their seductive pleasures.

OLD TESTAMENT 🌈

1 Kings 11: 14 to 33 While Solomon kept close to God and to his duty, there was no enemy to give him uneasiness; but here we have an account of two. If against us, he can make us fear even the least, and the very grasshopper shall be a burden. Though they were moved by principles of ambition or revenge, God used them to correct Solomon. In telling the reason why God rent the kingdom from the house of Solomon, Ahijah warned Jeroboam to take heed of sinning away his preferment. Yet the house of David must be supported; out of it the Messiah would arise. Solomon sought to kill his successor. Had not he taught others, that whatever devices are in men's hearts, the counsel of the Lord shall stand? Yet he himself thinks to defeat that counsel. Jeroboam withdrew into Egypt, and was content to live in exile and obscurity for a while, being sure of a kingdom at last. Shall not we be content, who have a better kingdom in reserve?

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 27: 11 to 44 Matthew 27: 39 reviled him. The sufferings of Christ, stage eight. Jesus was now a pathetic spectacle, blood streaked, covered with wounds and exposed to the view of the people. He experienced hours of pain in His entire body, fatigue in His arms, great waves of cramps in the muscles and his skin torn from His back. Then another agony began-- a crushing pain deep in the chest as fluid began to compress the heart. He felt intense thirst and was aware of the abuse and ridicule of those who passed by the cross.

Verses for 28th August 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 142 to 144 Psalm 142 I cried unto the Lord with my voice. This psalm comes from one who is deeply troubled and overwhelmed by the desperate situation. Although the psalmist is experiencing loneliness without any supporting human companionship or sympathy, the Lord still remains his refuge, a friend, a helper. When believers are afflicted and oppressed, rather than remaining silent, they should cry out to God, who has pledged Himself to be our comforter and helper in time of need. **Psalm 143** Hear my prayer, O Lord. Like the preceding psalm, this one describes a believer who is facing overwhelming adversity and testing, and who feels he has reached the end of his endurance. All he has left is prayerful hope that God will revive him again and deliver him out of great trial. **Psalm 144** Blessed be the Lord my strength. God is an immovable rock, stronghold, shield and deliverer for those who take refuge in Him. He trains the hands of the righteous for war and their fingers for battle in all areas of spiritual conflict.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 11:34 to 12 :14 Solomon's reign was as long as his father's, but his life was not so. Sin shortened his days. If the world, with all its advantages, could satisfy the soul, and afford real joy, Solomon would have found it so. But he was disappointed in all, and to warn us, has left this record of all earthly enjoyments, "Vanity and vexation of spirit." The New Testament declares that one greater than Solomon is come to reign over us, and to possess the throne of his father David. May we not see something of Christ's excellency faintly represented to us in this figure? The tribes complained not to Rehoboam of his father's idolatry, and revolt from God. That which was the greatest grievance, was none to them; so careless were they in matters of religion, if they might live at ease, and pay no taxes. Factious spirits will never want something to complain of. And when we see the Scripture account of Solomon's reign; the peace, wealth, and prosperity Israel then enjoyed; we cannot doubt but that their charges were false, or far beyond the truth. Rehoboam answered the people according to the counsel of the young men. Never was man more blinded by pride, and desire of arbitrary power, than which nothing is more fatal. God's counsels were hereby fulfilled. He left Rehoboam to his own folly, and hid from his eyes the things which belonged to his peace, that the kingdom might be rent from him. God serves his own wise and righteous purposes by the imprudences and sins of men. Those that lose the kingdom of heaven, throw it away, as Rehoboam, by wilfulness and folly.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 27: 45 to 66 Matthew 27: 46 Why had thou forsaken me.? The sufferings of Christ, stage nine. These words mark the climax of the sufferings of Christ for the lost world. His cry in Aramaic, My God, my God why hast thou forsaken me, testifies that He experienced separation from God as the sinner's substitute. Here the sorrow, grief and pain were at their worst. He was

wounded for our transgressions and gave Himself a " ransom for many". Him who had no sin God made Him " to be sin for us". He died forsaken, that we might never be forsaken. Thus we are redeemed by the sufferings of Christ. **Matthew 27: 51** the veil ..was torn The tearing of the " veil of the temple" signified that a way was now open into the presence of God. The curtain separating the holy place from the most holy place barred the way into the presence of the God. Through the death of Christ, the curtain was removed and the way into the most holy place was opened for all who believe in Christ and His saving message .

Verses for 29th August 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 145 & 146 Psalm 145: 2 Every day will I bless thee. No day should pass without praising and thanking God for His blessings and gifts to us. He is our Maker Redeemer and Provider.

Psalm 145: 8 The Lord is gracious. This oft-repeated refrain expresses God's delight in showing mercy, it moves His heart to compassion, He is slow to become angry at our offences and quickly shows love and mercy when forgiveness is requested. **Psalm 145: 18** nigh to all them that call upon him. All who call upon God in truth may be assured that He is near. He will hear their prayer, fulfill their desire for help and work for their deliverance. **Psalm 146** This psalm begins and ends with "praise ye the Lord " bringing the book of psalms to a fitting climax.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 12 : 15 to 33 1 Kings 12: 20 Jeroboam..king over Israel. At the death of Solomon, the Hebrew nation split into two kingdoms (1) The northern kingdom, called Israel, was ruled by Jeroboam. The Southern kingdom, called Judah, was first ruled by Rehoboam, Solomon's son. The division continued till the ten northern tribes were taken into captivity by Assyria in 722 B.C . The Babylonians carried the southern kingdom into captivity in 586 B.C. The history of the two kingdoms is recorded in 1 Kings 12--22; 2 Kings 1--25 and 2 Chronicles 10--36 2) The story of Israel and Judah reveals their persistence in breaking God's covenant. The Bible indicates that all the kings of northern kingdom did evil in the eyes of of the Lord ; the majority of the kings of Judah departed from the covenant. Only a few notably Hezekiah and Josiah did that which was right in the sight of the Lord. **1 Kings 12: 24** for this thing is from me. It was the Lord who brought about the division of His people. He designed the existence of two nations 1) as a punishment for their idolatry, and 2) as a means for preserving a faithful remnant through Judah . Though Israel as a whole departed from God , a remnant on Judah remained faithful to the covenant , and through them God was able to fulfill His promises of a Davidic Messiah and redemption.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 28: 1 to 20 Matthew 28: 6 he is risen. The resurrection of Jesus is one of the central truths of the gospel. It is the foundation of Christ's gift of the Holy Spirit and spiritual life to His people. **Matthew 28: 9** Jesus met them. The resurrection is well verified historically. After His resurrection Christ remained on earth for 40 days , appearing and talking to the apostles and many of His followers. **Matthew 28: 10** Be not afraid. His faithful will have no reason to fear if they also have remained loyal to Him and His Word. **Matthew 28: 18** All power God's people are promised authority and power to proclaim the gospel throughout the world. **Matthew 28: 19** Go..teach..baptizing. These words are Christ's Great Commission to a His followers of every generation. **Matthew 28: 20** I am with you. Jesus promised that His presence and authority

would be with all believers who go forth to "teach all nations ". Jesus is presently with us in the form of the Holy Spirit.

Verses for 31st August 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 149 & 150 Psalm 149: 6 high praises..a two edged sword. This verse addresses the activity of the righteous in two areas, worship and spiritual warfare. Our desire to praise God must be accompanied by the desire to oppose aggressively Satan's kingdom and all evil. God's kingdom will never be fully realised until the hostile forces of darkness are destroyed. We must take our stand against the powers of evil by living a righteous life in faith, taking the sword of the Spirit, (the Word of God), and praying in the Spirit. At the end of age we will, to the praise of God participate in His judgment upon the unrepentant world of the antichrist. **Psalm 150: 1** Praise ye the Lord. True praise of God will not be confined to the sanctuary. We can truly praise God only when we see His full greatness and goodness, and recall and meditate on all that He has done in creation and redemption and in our personal lives. In this way praise becomes a powerful response of the heart expressing joy gratitude and desire for communication with our Lord. In addition to praising God with our songs and instruments of sanctuary.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 13: 1 to 19 1 Kings 13: 2 - Josiah. This prophecy was made about 300 years before Josiah was born, for the fulfillment of the prophecy. **1 Kings 13: 9** The word of the Lord. The prophet, as God's spokesman was under the highest obligation to follow the entire Word of the Lord. This particular prophet later failed to obey God's instruction and paid with his life.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 1: 1 to 15 Mark 1: 5 all the land of Judea. There was a general spiritual awakening in Judea and Galilee that accompanied the ministry of John the Baptist. Israel's spiritual climate changed among the common people as a result, helping to prepare the way for the full revelation of God in His incarnate Son, Jesus Christ. **Mark 1: 8** baptize you with the Holy Ghost. John the Baptist was the first one who preached the Good news concerning Jesus. Mark condenses his preaching into one single theme, the proclamation of Jesus Christ, who would come and baptize His followers in the Holy Spirit. All those who accept Christ as Lord and savior should proclaim that Jesus is still the one who baptizes in the Holy Spirit. **Mark 1: 15** Kingdom of God. Christ came to proclaim and bring to completion the Kingdom of God. This was the theme of His earthly mission.

Verses for 1st October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 79: 1 to 5; 8 to 13 and verse 80. Psalm 79 The psalmist here intercedes with God to forgive the Israelites for their apostasy and to punish the nations that have destroyed Jerusalem and God's temple. Jerusalem was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 B.C. The psalmist acknowledges that the pagan nations were instruments of God's anger, yet what they had done against Israel was executed out of hatred for God and His chosen people. The psalmist is motivated by concern for God's glory and the promotion of His name among the unbelieving nations. **Psalm 80: 1** *Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel.* In this psalm of intercession, the psalmist pleads for the revival and restoration of God's people to their place of full blessing and favor with God.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 9:30 to 10:11 2 Kings 10: 1 *Jehu wrote letters.* Jehu challenged the officials of Samaria to select a king from the sons of Ahab and then face the consequences of conflict with Jehu himself. The rulers, however, became terrified by this psychological warfare and swore allegiance to Jehu, they then obeyed the order of Jehu to kill Ahab's descendants.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 11: 19 to 33 Mark 11: 23 *say unto the mountain.* The faith that Jesus refers to here is, God given faith that enables a person to face a mountain of impossibility and see it move by God's power. Some mountains are there to be climbed, while few others are to be thrown into the sea. During times of testing and trials, revelation is needed to activate God's faith in us in order for a miracle to occur. **Mark 11: 24** *believe...ye shall have them.* Faith that receives is not something humanly produced rather it is believing faith imparted to the believer's heart by God Himself. **Mark 11: 25** *when you stand praying, forgive.* Let no Christians delude themselves that they have faith sufficient for answered prayer if they secretly hold animosity or bitterness in their hearts against anyone.

Verses for 10th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 32 and 33 Psalm 32: 1 *Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven.* The only truly happy people are those who have received forgiveness of their sins from God, so that the guilt of their transgressions does not weigh upon their minds and consciences. Such blessed peace is open to all sinners who come to the Lord. The psalmist describes God's forgiveness in three ways 1) He forgives the sin, pardons it 2) He covers the sin, puts it out of sight 3) The sin is not imputed, the guilt is canceled from the record. **Psalm 33: 6** By the word of the Lord..the breath of his mouth, can also mean spirit, the breath of God is thus equivalent to the activity of God's Spirit. This verse contains an important Biblical truth, the union of the power of God's Word with the power of God's Spirit, always releases the creative power of God on behalf of His people.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 19:10 to 20:12 1 Kings 19: 15 *Hezekiah prayed.* Hezekiah took the defiant letter that demanded Jerusalem's surrender, spread it out before the Lord and prayed earnestly to Him. When troubles come into our lives and circumstances seem out of control, we do as Hezekiah did, draw near to God in fervent and trusting prayer. God has promised to deliver His people from the hands of their enemies and permit nothing to happen that is not out of His will. By clinging to God in trust and faith, we will have His peace to guard our hearts and mind. **1 Kings 20: 11** *brought the shadow ten degrees backward.* The exact nature of the sun's shadow being reversed on the stairway is not explained, what is clear is that it did occur by the word of the Lord as a prophetic sign to Hezekiah that God had heard his prayer and seen his tears, and would heal him.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 4 : 30 to 41 Mark 4: 31 *mustard seed.* The parable of the Mustard seed and the Leaven can also find application in the lives of individual believers. Every Christian must be careful that the leaven of evil does not effect his or her own life. The secret of victory lies in keeping our eyes fixed upon Jesus in faith, despising the things of the world, remaining in God's Word.

Verses for 11th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 34 and 35 Psalm 34 *I will bless the Lord.* The writer of this psalm praises the Lord for a miraculous deliverance from great trouble. His testimony encourages afflicted believers to believe that they may also experience the goodness of the Lord. **Psalm 35** *fight against them that fight against me* This psalm is called an imprecatory psalm meaning that the psalmist prays that God will bring judgement upon the enemies of His people and overthrow the wicked.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 20: 13 to 32 1 Kings 20: 13 *I will deliver it unto thine hand.* In spite of the unfaithfulness of Ahab and the people of Israel, God showed them mercy and delivered Samaria from the Syrian army. A year later God gave Israel a great victory over Syria east of the Jordan River near the city of Aphek. Ahab, however, refused to submit to and worship the true God of Israel.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 5 : 1 to 34 **Mark 5: 2** *a man with an unclean spirit.* Demonized people suffer from satanic oppression or influence because an evil spirit or spirits dwell in them. Scripture records many occasions in which Jesus drove out demons. **Mark 5 : 28** *touch his (Jesus) clothes.* The Gospels often speak of the sick touching Jesus. It was the contact and presence of Jesus that mattered. His touch has healing power because He sympathizes with our weaknesses and is the source of life and grace. Our responsibility in seeking healing is to draw near to Jesus and to live in His presence.

Verses for 12th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 36 and 37 **Psalms 36: 4** *he abhorreth not evil.* The word "evil" refers to basic evil. People may be loving and kind, and do good to the poor, yet if they have no indignation against wrong, contempt for the world's immoral ways, zeal for justice or hatred of evil, they have failed to stand with God or follow the Holy Spirit. **Psalm 37** *Fret not thyself.* This psalm is not a prayer, but a series of proverbial expressions or instructions about godly wisdom. Its theme concerns the believer's attitude toward the apparent success of the wicked and the hardship of the righteous, it teaches that the ungodly will eventually be cast down and lose they acquired on earth, whereas the righteous who remain loyal to God will have His presence, help and guidance on earth and will inherit salvation and the promised land.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 20:33 to 21:10 **1 Kings 20: 35** *the sons of the prophets.* These were students of the prophets who in some sense were discipled by older and more renowned prophets like Elisha. They stood in close association with the master prophet, opposed the worship of Baal, and promoted obedience and faithfulness to the Lord God. They were known for prophesying by the power of the Spirit.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 5 : 35 to 6: 6 **Mark 5: 36** *only believe.* The daughter of the synagogue ruler had died Jesus response was to encourage the father's faith, even in this seemingly hopeless situation. Throughout redemptive history, believers have placed their trust in God even when it seemed all was lost. In such times, God gave the necessary faith and delivered His people according to His will and purpose. This was true for Abraham. **Mark 6: 6** *unbelief.* As lack of faith hindered working of miracles in Jesus hometown, so unbelief in the church still hinders the working of His power. Failure to believe Biblical truth, unbelief about the active goodness of God on your behalf, denial of the functioning, available presence of the Holy Spirit and His gifts for today or rejection of God's righteous standards will prevent our Lord from demonstrating His kingdom power among His people. Believers must maintain a hunger for the word and pray and increase our faith.

Verses for 14th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 40 and 41 Psalm 40 : 8 I delight to do thy will. The motto of Jesus whole life was, " Lo I come to do thy will, O God. It is by Christ's obedience unto death that we have been sanctified in order that the law of God may be put into our hearts. Thus every believer must also affirm these words of Christ in his or her own life, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. **Psalm 41: 9** *lift up his heel against me.* Jesus quoted this verse and applied it to His betrayal by Judas Iscariot, who was a trusted friend. The tragic story of Judas, who at one time had an intimate fellowship with Jesus , but then forsook His Lord by betraying Him, serves as a warning to all who follow Christ. In this life there is always the possibility that we might grow cold toward Christ, allow Satan little by little to lead us into compromise with the world, and then in the end betray the Lord and His cause.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 21:11 to 22:10 1 Kings 21: 17 *the word of the Lord came to Elijah.* God hates injustice within the community of His people. Because of the death of the innocent Naboth, Elijah prophesied that Ahab and Jezebel would be judged specifically in the manner of their death. God's principal retribution and justice continues under the new covenant. For example, Paul states that "he that doeth wrong, shall receive for the wrong which he hath done, and God's people must treat one another with righteousness, justice and loving kindness. 1 Kings 22: 6 *four hundred men.* These four hundred prophets of Ahab were not true prophets of the Lord, but religionists who prophesied what the king wanted to hear.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 6 : 7 to 20 Mark 6: 13 *anointed with oil.* Anointing the sick with oil for healing is mentioned only here and in James. The oil likely represents a tangible token of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, and a point of contact to encourage faith.

Verses for 15th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 42 to 44 Psalm 42: 2 *My soul thirsteth for God.* As water is essential for physical life, so God and His presence are essential for satisfaction and wholeness of life. True believers will hunger and thirst for God and His grace, blessing and super natural activity in their lives. Beware of cares of this world, the pursuit of earthly things, and the pleasures that diverts the desire to seek God. **Psalm 44: 22** *for thy sake are we killed all the day long.* The Holy Spirit reveals that some suffering comes to God's faithful people because they maintain loyalty to him in a hostile world. The apostle Paul quotes this verse in Romans 8:36 to teach that all those who identify with Christ and refuse to conform to the evil world will undergo grief, persecution and suffering. At the same time as God's people we are assured of victory through Jesus Christ, knowing that God is for us and no adversity can separate us from His love.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 22: 11 to 33 1 Kings 22: 15 *Go, and prosper.* Micaiah mimicked the prediction of the false prophets in such a way that Ahab knew he was not serious. Micaiah then proceeded to make known the true prophetic vision he had received. The meaning was clear. Ahab would die and Israel would retreat home. **1 Kings 22: 23** *a lying spirit.* The lying spirit can be understood as one of Satan's agents, an evil spirit sent by God to condemn Ahab and the false prophets in their sin. Their hearts were hardened against the truth to such an extent that God finally gave them over to a lie as the due penalty for their sin.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 6: 21 to 44 Mark 6: 34 *compassion.* Compassion is an emotion that moves people to the very depths of their being. It involves a sorrow felt for another's suffering and misfortune, accompanied by an intense desire to help. It is a characteristic both of God and His Son -Jesus. Jesus wants and expects this attitude to characterize His followers. **Mark 6: 41** *Thanksgiving at Mealtimes.* Before eating, Christ gave thanks to His heavenly Father for the food. Believers ought to follow His example and give thanks at every meal. To eat with thanksgiving is to recognise God's care and provision for us. Every meal should be an act of worship, done to the glory of God.

Verses for 16th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 45 and 46 Psalm 45: 6 and 7 *Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever.* These two verses find their ultimate fulfillment in Jesus Christ and Christ's dominion will be forever and ever. In this psalm the most significant characteristic of Christ is described in terms of His nature and kingdom. Since His joy is found in doing His Father's will. He intensely loves righteousness. He hates wickedness. He came to destroy the works of the devil. Likewise, abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon God's people will come only as they share Christ's heartfelt love for righteousness and persistent resistance to evil. **Psalm 46: 1 and 2** *our refuge our strength.* Although we all experience spiritual barrenness at times, this is not the norm as God desires to be near His people with help and comfort. This psalm expresses trust and confidence in God during a time of instability and insecurity. The power and ability to face the uncertainties and adversities of life are found in God. "Refugee" pictures a shelter from danger indicating that God is our true security in the storms of life. Strength refers to His might when battling foes and includes His power that works in us, enabling us to overcome obstacles in life.

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 22: 34 to 53 Ahab basely intended to betray Jehoshaphat to danger, that he might secure himself. See what they get that join with wicked men. How can it be expected that he should be true to his friend, who has been false to his God! He had said in compliment to Ahab, I am as thou art, and now he was indeed taken for him. Those that associate with evil-doers, are in danger of sharing in their plagues. By Jehoshaphat's deliverance, God let him know, that though he was displeased with him, yet he had not deserted him. God is a friend that will not fail us when other friends do. Let no man think to hide himself from God's judgment. God directed the arrow to hit Ahab; those cannot escape with life, whom God has doomed to death. Ahab lived long enough to see part of Micaiah's prophecy accomplished. He had time to feel himself die; with what horror must he have thought upon the wickedness he had committed! Jehoshaphat's reign appears to have been one of the best, both as to piety and prosperity. He pleased God, and God blessed him. Ahaziah's reign was very short, less than two years; some sinners God makes quick work with. A very bad character of him has been recorded; he listened not to instruction, took no warning, but followed the example of his wicked father, and the counsel of his more wicked mother, Jezebel, who was still living. Miserable are the children who not only derive a sinful nature from their parents, but are taught by them to increase it; and most unhappy parents are they, that help to damn their children's souls. Hardened sinners rush forward, unawed and unmoved, in the ways from which others before them have been driven into everlasting misery.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 6:45 to 7:1 to 8 Mark 7 : 6 *their heart is far from me.* The Pharisees and the teachers of the law were guilty of the sin of legalism. A legalist substitutes outward acts, rules of words for proper inner attitudes that come from being born of God and the Spirit. Even in this day of grace Christians remain under the instruction, discipline and duty of obeying Christ's teaching and His word.

Verses for 17th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 47 to 49 Psalm 48: 14 *God ...will be our guide even unto death.* The Lord has committed Himself to be the believer's faithful and constant guide throughout life, in the experience of death and beyond death to the eternal home where we will be with Him forever. **Psalm 49** This psalm stresses both the futility of trusting in riches and transitory nature of all that this earth has to offer. The psalmist declares that the person whose life consists in an abundance of possessions or in worldly pleasures of fame rather than seeking God and His kingdom, will perish on the other hand those who live for God will be redeemed from the grave.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 1: 1 to 18 2 Kings 1: 8 *The description of Elijah as a hairy man may refer to his cloak.* A shaggy mantle of sheepskin, goatskin or camel hair was a mark of a prophetic office from Elijah on including John the Baptist. Elijah's leather girdle or wide belt was what the poor normally wore. The prophet's dress was a sign of contempt for the materialistic display of the wealthy upper class. **2 Kings 1:10** *there came down fire from heaven.* The king and his soldiers, in rebellion against God and His word, sought to arrest Elijah. The fire came directly by God's hand as a judgement against Ahaziah, who had stubbornly persisted in opposing God and the prophet.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 7: 9 to 23 Mark 7: 18 it cannot defile him. Jesus is speaking of foods that enter a person but do not affect his or her spirit and conscience before God. This verse cannot be used legitimately to justify using harmful drugs or abusing alcohol, for such use has resulted in all the sins listed. **Mark 7: 20 to 23** the heart of men. In this passage defileth means being defiled spiritually because of sins that come from the heart. The heart in Scripture is the totality of intellect, emotion, desire and volition. An impure heart will corrupt one's thoughts, feelings, words and actions. What is needed is a new transformed heart, refashioned after the image of Christ.

Verses for 18th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 50 and 51 Psalm 50: 16 to 23 *What hast thou to do to declare my statutes?* The Lord delivers a stern warning to religious hypocrites among His people, threatening to tear... In pieces those who pretend to be devoted to Him, who claim the covenant salvation and blessings of his Word, and who at the same time ignore His righteous commandments and conform to ungodliness of a wicked society. Such people will receive greater damnation. **Psalm 51: 12** *Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation.* The Lord restored to David the joy of salvation. The Scripture clearly teaches that we will reap what we sow, if we sow to please the Spirit, we will reap life from the Spirit, if we sow to the flesh, we will reap corruption from the flesh. As a result of David's sin, he suffered lifelong consequences of his own in family life and kingdom.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 2 : 1 to 25 2 Kings 2: 3 *son's of the prophets.* The sons of the prophets appear to have been located primarily in three areas -- Gilgal, Beth-el and Jericho. God evidently sent Elijah to these communities in order to encourage them one last time and to announce that Elisha would be their new leader . **2 Kings 2: 9** *a double portion of thy spirit.* The term double portion does not necessarily mean twice the spiritual power of Elijah, rather it refers to a father son relationship, where the 1st born recd twice the inheritance the other sons received. Elisha was asking his spiritual father to give him an abundant measure of His prophetic spirit in order that he might carry on Elijah's mission. God granted Elisha 's request, knowing that the young prophet was willing to remain faithful to Him in the face of spiritual moral and doctrinal apostasy all around him.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 7 : 24 to 37 *Mark 7: 27 children's bread.* The word children refers to Israel. Jesus indicates that the gospel must be taken first to Israel. The woman understands this, yet responds to Christ in wisdom , perseverance and faith. She argues that it is God's purpose for Gentiles to receive blessings indirectly when He blesses Israel. Christ rewards her diligent faith by healing her child. Believers, who pray for themselves and others , must persevere in prayer and occasionally even reason with God.

Verses for 19th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 52 to 54 Psalm 54: 4 *God is mine helper.* This psalm is an appropriate prayer for the believer facing dangers or imminent disaster. The psalmist calls for help, expecting that God will respond in His saving, delivering and healing power. Today the Lord sends the Holy Spirit to be our helper on earth and the sustainer of our soul's.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 3: 1 to 27 2 Kings 3: 15 *the minstrel played.* The music of the harp helped seal off all outside distraction and the unbelief around him, bringing Elisha into a frame of mind and spirit to receive the Lord's revelation. **2 Kings 3: 27** *eldest son.. offered him for a burnt offering.* The king of Moab put his eldest son to death as an offering to their god, in an effort to persuade the supposed deity to help his army in battle. This human sacrifice in reality is a sacrifice unto Satan and demons, the things the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to the devils. Archaeologists have discovered a Moabite stone confirming that the king of Moab really carry out this wicked deed. **2 Kings 3: 27** *there was great indignation against Israel.* The armies of Israel withdrew in a hasty retreat. The wrath of the Moabite army that came against them was presumably the result of the human sacrifice offered to the demonic power behind god. It appears that power is unleashed in the spiritual realm by blood sacrifices both for incomparably great good, as through Christ's blood, and for abominable evil, as in the sacrifice here, it could be that blood sacrifices offered to demonic powers release them to do battle more effectively against the spiritual forces of the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 8: 1 to 21 Mark 8: 21 *have compassion.* Jesus was touched with compassion for the needs and suffering of humanity. Jesus is still moved today with a deep and earnest sympathy by the needs and hurts of each child of God. This assures us that in our troubles we can come to Him in prayer in order to receive grace, mercy and help.

Article and Bible Verses for 21st September 2020

Article : MATTHEW- APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

[\(Read more\)](#)

PSALMS 

Psalms 57 to 59 Psalms 57: 1 *in the shadow of thy wings.* The shadow of God's wings represents His love, protection, strength and gracious presence. We take refuge under those wings when we come to Him in prayer and rely on Him in faith. In the shadow of His wings we are protected from everything that would work contrary to His purpose for our lives. **Psalm 58: 10** *The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance.* This verse expresses the joy and satisfaction that God's people experience when evil is defeated and overthrown. Likewise New Testament believers must desire and pray for the ultimate removal of all evil and for the removal of all evil and for the establishment of God's kingdom in the new heaven and earth.

OLD TESTAMENT 

2 Kings 4 : 1 to 17 2 Kings 4: 1 *a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets.* The miraculous acts of Elisha recorded in chapter 4 present spiritual truths in dramatic action. The narrative of the widow and her two children reveals that God cares for His faithful who ard in need and in distress. The widow and her children represent compassion and care for needy are signs of genuine faith in God and true piety. **2 Kings 4: 8** *Shunem, there was a great woman.* The narrative of this wealthy shunammite woman contains three key episodes. 1) God blessed the faithful woman by giving her a son. 2) God caused her to be severely tested by permitting the son to be taken away from her. 3) God restored her son's life as she held firmly to God's word and promise.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 8: 22 to 33 Mark 8: 25 *he was restored.* This healing in Bethsaida is the only instance of a gradual cure by Jesus. It teaches that not every healing has to be instantaneous, for in some cases the victory of divine power over sickness will be gradual.

Verses for 22nd September 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 60, 61, and Psalm 119: 161 to 176 Psalm 60 O God, thou hast cast us off...thou hast been displeased. David confesses that God's people suffered a defeat in battle because God withdrew His divine help and protection when they ceased to please Him and do His will. The remedy for Israel in this tragic situation is to seek God earnestly in prayer and renew their fear of Him. **Psalm 119: 176** I have gone astray like a lost sheep. The writer cannot mean that he has departed from the Lord and rejected His word, for he has declared the contrary over and over in this psalm, his concluding words remain, I do not forget thy commandments. The psalmist here may simply be acknowledging that he is prone to error apart from being guided by God's Word.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 4 : 18 to 44 2 Kings 4: 21 *the man of God*. Elisha was especially known by people from all walks of life as "the man of God ". The highest tribute that can be paid to any minister. The following are the characteristics of this man of God. He maintained intimate and persevering communion with God. He knew God and was known by Him. He was a holy man fully set apart and dedicated to the Lord God of Israel. The Spirit of the Lord was upon him, enabling him to speak with spiritual authority as God's representative and to proclaim the word of Lord faithfully. As a prophet of stature and gifts, his ministry was affirmed by God with mighty miracles and signs. **2 Kings 4: 38 to 44** *a dearth in the land*. These two naratives concerning the needs of the "son's of the prophets illustrate the truth that the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy, to deliver their soul from death and to keep them alive in famine.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 8:34 to 9:8 Mark 8: 38 *ashamed of me and of my words*. Jesus sees the world and society in which we live as an adulterous and sinful generation. All those who seek to be popular in or accepted by their present evil generation rather than following Christ and His righteous standards will be rejected by Christ at His return.

Verses for 23rd September 2020.

PSALMS

Psalms 62 to 65 Psalm 62: 1 *from him cometh my salvation.* This psalm expresses a fundamental truth by which every believer should live. In times of trouble, affliction or opposition from enemies, we should turn God as our ultimate refuge and deliverer. **Psalm 63** *early will i seek thee.* Every believer should pray as David did in this psalm. It describes a man's deep longing in his heart for God, one that can be satisfied by an intimate relationship with Him. **Psalm 64** *Preserve my life from fear of the enemy.* The psalmist prays to God for protection from the plots and deception of his enemies. **Psalm 65 : 4** Blessed is the man whom thou chooseth and causest to approach unto thee. Our greatest joy is to be near God and enjoy communion with Him.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 5: 1 to 19 2 Kings 5: 1 *Naaman.* The story of Naaman demonstrates the providence of God. His saving power and grace and His judgement upon sin. Prominent in this narrative is the truth that God's grace and salvation were not confined to Israel, but that He desired to have compassion on non Israelites and lead them to know the one true God. **2 Kings 5: 10** *wash in Jordan.* Elisha instructed Naaman to wash himself in the muddy waters of Jordan River as a simple demonstration of humility and obedience. Furthermore, by doing so Naaman would find it impossible to ascribe to humans or to natural means. Both Israelites and Syrians knew that the Jordan could not heal leprosy. Naaman needed to know that his healing came miraculously by God's grace and power through the word of God's prophet. **2 Kings 5: 15** *there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel* It is amazing that Naaman, a foreigner miraculously delivered from leprosy and apparently converted to the true God. **2 Kings 5: 16** *I will receive none.* God does not offer His services for a price only to those who can afford it, thus Elisha felt it would be inappropriate for him to profit from what God had done through him.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 9 : 9 to 29 Mark 9: 19 *faithless generation.* Failure to wage effective warfare against demons is seen as a spiritual weakness on the part of Christ's disciples. **Mark 9: 23** *all things are possible.* Jesus statement must not be taken as an unqualified promise. The prayer of faith must be based upon the will of God. **Mark 9: 29** *by prayer and fasting.* Jesus does not mean that a time out for prayer was necessary before this kind of evil spirit could be driven out. Rather a principle is implied here, where there is little faith, there is little prayer. Where there is much prayer and intimacy with God, coupled together with a life of love and obedience to God and His Word , there is much faith and spiritual authority.

Verses for 24th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 66 and 67 Psalm 66: 5 *Come and see the works of God.* A community of believers must have the works of the Holy Spirit so manifested in their midst that they can glorify God and say to others, come and see the works of God. **Psalm 67 : 1 to 2** *God ..bless us..that thy way may be known upon earth.* This psalm reminds us of God's plan for His people when He first called Abraham. God chose this man that through his descendants God and His redemptive love might become known to the nations of the world. He intended that Israel's reception and enjoyment of His grace and blessings would cause the heathen nations to take notice, so that they might praise Him and accept His ways of truth and righteousness.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 5:20 to 6:12 2 Kings 5: 20 *I will ...take somewhat of him.* Elisha's servant Gehazi had a covetous heart and therefore sought to corrupt God's gracious act for the sake of material prosperity. His transgressions included betraying Elisha, lying to Naaman and Elisha, and dishonoring the name of God. **2 Kings 6: 5** *the axe head.* The story of the lost axe head illustrates God's interest and care in what might appear to be an insignificant matter. An iron axe head at that time was a very expensive tool, and this poor man felt keenly his responsibility for the borrowed tool. The miracle served to communicate God's heart of compassion for the man in his predicament, to demonstrate the power of God at work through the prophet and thus to further confirm Elisha's authority and ministry, and to increase the faith of the younger prophets with Elisha.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 9: 30 to '50 Mark 9: 42 *Do not offendlittle ones.* One of the highest priorities for believers is to set an example for their children by life and teaching. In doing so, we demonstrate a sincere love for them. Christian parents must also do their best to keep their children from the ungodly influences of the world.

Verses for 25th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 68 : 1 to 20 and 24 to 35; Psalms 69 : 1 to 21 and 29 to 36 Psalm 68: 5 *A father of the fatherless* The fatherhood of God for the believer is emphasized in both Old Testament and New Testament. God delights in protecting the weak, disadvantaged, wronged and lonely among His people. If you feel alone in this world you should ask God to put you under His special care and protection. **Psalm 68: 18** *Thou hast ascended on high.* This verse describes God's triumphal march in Israel's history, culminating with the establishment of His rule in Jerusalem. It also foreshadows Christ's ascension into heaven to rule as head of the church and to bring many into the kingdom of God. **Psalm 68: 1 to 4** *Save me , O God.* This expression of the oppressive sufferings of the righteous person also captures the feelings of the saviour as he underwent persecution from the ungodly and experienced the agony of the cross. Similarly, any righteous believer who undergoes great trouble and sees no way out, may cry to God. **Psalm 69 : 22 to 28** *Let their table become a snare before them.* The psalmist prays for judgement to come to those who oppose God and inflict suffering upon the righteous. Paul applied these verses to those Jews who continued to reject Christ and His salvation.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 6 : 13 to 33 2 Kings 6 : 16 and 17 *they that be with us are more than they that be with them.* An unseen spiritual realm exists, consisting of a host of ministering angels who are active in the lives of God's people. Several principles may be derived from this event . God's ministering spirits are not far off, but are very close, observing the actions and faith of God's children and working on their behalf. It is the spiritual battle against the rulers of darkness of this world, the outcome of the spiritual battles is determined in part by the faith and prayers of Gods children.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 10 : 1 to 16 Mark 10: 15 *as a little child.* Receiving the kingdom of God like a child means accepting it in a simple, humble, trustful and wholehearted manner so as to turn from sin and receive Christ as your Lord and Savior and God as your heavenly Father. **Mark 10: 16** *and blessed them.* Christ is deeply concerned about the salvation and the spiritual upbringing of children. Christian parents should use every means of grace available to bring their children to Christ., for he longs to receive them love them and bless them.

Verses for 26th September 2020

PSALMS 🗝️ **Psalm 70 and 71 Psalm 71 : 1 to 24** *I put my trust.* This psalm contains a prayer by an older person who faces troubles and needs God's help to rescue him from his enemies and afflictions. He has walked in God's ways since childhood and experienced exceptional troubles in life, yet he has maintained his faith and confidence in God. He is determined to live the rest of his life with the confidence that God will manifest His power and goodness in his life. **Psalm 71: 18** *until i have shewed ...thy power to every one that is to come.* Our hope and purpose in life should be to abide in God and in the fullness of His Spirit, so that His power and goodness might be clearly manifested in our lives, thus the next generation will be inspired to seek earnestly God's kingdom and His righteousness.

OLD TESTAMENT 🌈

2 Kings 7 : 1 to 20 2 Kings 7: 1 *a measure of fine flour be sold for a shekel.* Elisha prophesied that the shortage of food would soon end and that food prices would drop to a normal level. **2 Kings 7: 16** *according to the word of the Lord.* Through the event recorded in this chapter the Israelites understood that "the word of the Lord" was indeed true, that in mercy God had saved the apostate nation from calamity in order that they might repent and return to Him, and that unbelief and failure to follow God's Word would result in further judgment.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 10 : 17 to 31 Mark 10 : 30 *receive hundredfold.* The rewards promised here are not to be understood in a literal way. Rather, the blessings and joy inherent in the relationships listed here will be experienced by the true disciple who sacrifices for Christ's sake.

Verses for 26th September 2020

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Verses for 28th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 74 & 75 Psalm 74 *O God, why hast thou cast us off for ever?* The psalmist prays that God's chastisement may not be forever. This prayer warns us that God's patience will not tolerate sin indefinitely, eventually sorrow and calamity will come. **Psalm 75: 8** *in the hand of the Lord there is a cup.* The picture of God giving the wicked an intoxicating drink is used in Scripture as a symbol of His wrath and punishment. David states-*Thou hast made us drink the wine of astonishment i.e, wine that makes us stagger.*

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 8 : 1 to 15 2 Kings 8 : 1 *the Lord hath called for a famine.* God sent a famine upon Israel as a punishment for their apostasy. The author does not say when it occurred, though it was evident before the judgement of Gehazi and after raising of the Shunammite's son, it is probably the same famine mentioned in 2 Kings 4: 38. **2 Kings 8 : 2** *the woman arose, and did.* Because the woman demonstrated a sincere faith and remained faithful to God's prophet in a time of general apostasy, the Lord guided and helped her in her time of need. **2 Kings 8 : 11 and 12** *the man of God wept.* In a vision from the Spirit of revelation, Elisha saw that Hazael would become king of Syria and perpetrate terrible evil against Israel. Elisha wept because of what was coming upon Israel as a result of their apostasy. As a true man of God, he felt a deep sorrow both for God, who had been abandoned by His own people, and for those people who now had to suffer severe judgement for their sins. In like manner Jesus wept over Jerusalem and Paul over the church. The words of Elisha do not endorse the future cruelty of Hazael, but only describe the terrible practices of depraved humans in times of war.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 10 : 32 to 45 Mark 10 : 43 *whosoever will be great.* True greatness is not a matter of leadership, authority or high personal achievement, but of an attitude of heart that sincerely desires to live for God and others. We must be so committed to God that identify with His will on earth without desiring glory, position or material rewards. Accomplishing the will of God, leading others to salvation in Christ, and pleasing God are the rewards of the truly great , note on greatness.

Verses for 29th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 76 and 77 Psalm 76 : 10 *the wrath of man shall praise thee.* God's wrath expressed in judgement against oppressors of His people brings Him praise from those who have been delivered. The wrath of the wicked can provide the occasion for God to rescue His own and to accomplish great things on their behalf, e.g. Pharaoh's wrath against Israel became God's opportunity to demonstrate His miraculous power in delivering them from Egypt. **Psalm 77** *I cried unto God.* This psalm portrays a person in great trouble who cried unto God but could find no evidence that he was responding. Faithful believers sometimes find themselves in a similar situation. If so, they should do as this psalmist did, continue to call on God day and night, while remembering God's past deeds of love. In the fullness of God's revelation in His son, we are reassured that He spared not His own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 8:16 to 9:10 *A general idea is given of Jehoram's badness.* His father, no doubt, had him taught the true knowledge of the Lord, but didn't do the wise thing to get him married to the daughter of Ahab; no good could come of union with an idolatrous family. Names do not make natures, but it was bad for Jehoshaphat's family to borrow names from Ahab's. Ahaziah's relation to Ahab's family was the occasion of his wickedness and of his fall. When men choose wives for themselves, let them remember they are choosing mothers for their children. Providence so ordered it, that Ahaziah might be cut off with the house of Ahab, when the measure of their iniquity was full. Those who partake with sinners in their sin, must expect to partake with them in their plagues. May all the changes, troubles, and wickedness of the world, make us more earnest to obtain an interest in the salvation of Christ. In these and the like events, we must acknowledge the secret working of God, disposing men to fulfil his purposes respecting them. Jehu was anointed king over Israel, by the Lord's special choice. The Lord still had a remnant of his people, and would yet preserve his worship among them. Of this Jehu was reminded. He was commanded to destroy the house of Ahab, and, as far as he acted in obedience to God, and upon right principles, he needed not to regard reproach or opposition. The murder of God's prophets is strongly noticed. Jezebel persisted in idolatry and enmity to Jehovah and his servants, and her iniquity was now full.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 10 :46 to 11:10 Mark 11: 1 *Passion week.* At this point in the Gospel of Mark, the events of Passion Week begin, followed by the account of resurrection. **Mark 11: 9** *Blessed is he that cometh.* The crowd believed that the Messiah would restore Israel nation, lay and rule the nations

politically. They failed to understand the purpose that Jesus expressed regarding His coming into the world. Later the crowd shouted "Crucify him" when they saw He was not the Messiah they wanted.

Verses for 30th September 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 78 *Give ear, O my people, to my law.* This psalm was written to remind Israel why so many devastating judgements of God came upon them throughout their history. The song warns them to learn from the spiritual failures of their forefathers and to strive diligently to avoid the same unbelief and unfaithfulness.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 9: 11 to 29 2 Kings 9: 25 *in the portion of the field of Naboth.* Ahab and Jezebel, the parents of King Joram, had ruthlessly defrauded Naboth in order to steal his field. Now the dead body of their son was thrown into that very field. The sins of parents may bear fruit in the children years after the parents death.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 11: 11 to 18 Mark 11: 15 *Jesus went into the temple.* Christ's driving out those who were buying and selling in the temple shows His zeal for true holiness and prayer among those who claim to worship God. **Mark 11: 17** *the house of prayer.* Jesus makes it clear that God's house was meant to be a "house of prayer" for Gentiles as well as Jews. The buying, selling and money tables were taking place in the court of the Gentiles, making it impossible for the Gentile nations to pray there. This was profaning of God's house and a defrauding of the Gentiles of their place of prayer and worship.

Verses for 9th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 97 to 99 Psalm 97: 10 *Ye that love the Lord, hate evil.* Those who claim to love the Lord will be tested by how much they hate evil while living upon this earth. A truly regenerated believer made one with Christ and indwelt by the Holy Spirit, will love what God loves and hate what He hates. We should be vexed by the wickedness, brutality and ungodliness in the world, and grieved by the lives being destroyed by its evil, furthermore, we should be deeply distressed when sin and immorality are tolerated in the house of God. **Psalm 98: 9** *he cometh to judge the earth.* This verse will find its ultimate fulfillment in our Lord's return to judge the the world, eliminate sin and sorrow, and renew the heavens and the earth. Nature itself will rejoice as it participates in the final redemption when Christ rules the earth in righteousness and justice. **Psalm 99: 3** *thy great and terrible name, for It is holy.* The Lord God is so awesome and holy that even His name must be treated with the utmost reverence and respect . God may never be treated lightly, for He is enthroned far above humans in strength, justice, purity and greatness. We must both love and fear God and beware of adopting the world's casual use of His name.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 15 : 13 to 38 2 Kings 15: 16 *all the women therein that were with child he ript up.* Some of the kings of Israel committed the most barbarous atrocities, furthermore, God had predicted that Israel's Kings would lead God's people into apostasy. By now, Israel had become so evil that her doom and destruction was eminent. **2 Kings 15: 29** *carried them captive to Assyria.* This invasion by Tiglath - pileser 3 of Assyria (733 BC) represented the first stage of Israel's captivity in exile. Those living in the northern and eastern sections of Israel were carried away from their homeland into Mesopotamia. This beginning of the end for the northern kingdom came as a result of God's judgement for their continued sin. Samaria, the capital of the northern kingdom, was captured 11 years later.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 14 : 12 to 21 Mark 14: 21 *had never been born.* Jesus always judges and evaluates life from a spiritual and eternal viewpoint. He affirms that it would be better that a person never be born than to come into this world, fail to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, and consequently perish eternally in hell.

Verses for 10th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 100 to 102 Psalm 100: 2 *come before His presence with singing.* Individual and congregational singing should be done primarily unto the Lord with joy and out of a conscious awareness of His presence. In song we remember that He created us and redeemed us and that we are now His people and He is our shepherd. We sing of His love, faithfulness and truth that will endure forever. **Psalm 101: 3** *I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes.* Today it is common for people to be entertained by using their eyes to view violence sexual immorality, sensuality, pornography, acts of perversion and evil of all kinds as a means to gratify the lust and desires of the flesh. God's people must guard their hearts and eyes from viewing. God calls the righteous to hate and shun evil.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 16: 1 to 20 2 Kings 16: 3 *made his son to pass through the fire.* Under the reign of Ahaz , Judah entered into a dark time of spiritual chaos and corruption. Apostasy reached such depths that the king himself performed pagan religious practice of sacrificing children by fire to pagan.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 14 : 24 *blood of the new testament* Christ's blood was shed for us in order to bring us forgiveness and salvation. His death on the cross established a new covenant between God and all who receive Christ as Lord and Savior. Those who repent and turn to God through faith in Christ will be forgiven, be delivered from the power of Satan, receive new spiritual life , be made children of God, be baptized with the Holy Spirit and have access to God at any time in order to receive mercy, grace strength and help.

Verses for 12th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 104 : 24 to 35 ; 105: 1 to 22 *God thou art very great.* This psalm is a hymn about God's creation of all things and His providential care over all His works. It emphasizes His involvement with all. He has made, for He dwells in the world and sustains it. What God continues to do in the universe reflects His glory. Yet God's creation is marred because of sin and evil, thus the psalm ends with a prayer for God to remove from it all things that are wicked and all those who sin. **Psalm 105** *Give thanks unto the Lord.* This psalm calls Israel to worship, praise, obey and seek the Lord because He has miraculously directed their personal and corporate history in order to create and preserve the nation of Israel as a holy people who observe His righteous laws. The psalmist intends to inspire in the people gratitude for the Lord's care in their lives, joy in their possession of the holy land and faithfulness to Him and His Word. Likewise, we as believers should look back and remember God's history with us, to do so should elicit thankfulness and a greater loyalty to Him who gave Himself for us.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 17: 1 to 23 **2 Kings 17: 6** *carried Israel away into Assyria* In 722 B.C. after 210 years of idolatry, spiritual rebellion and moral corruption, God decreed the ultimate fall and exile of the nation of Israel the 10 tribes of the northern kingdom. Only a believing and faithful remnant was left to experience the fulfillment of God's promises. **2 Kings 17: 18** *the tribe of Judah.* The southern kingdom consisted of the tribe of Judah, elements of the tribes of Benjamin and Simeon, and some from the ten tribes in Israel who had migrated to the southern kingdom to worship God at Jerusalem. Thus the nation of Judah became the people through whom God's covenant with the Hebrew people was maintained.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 14: 32 to 50 **Mark 14: 37** *watch one hour.* Peter and the disciples neglected to keep watch and pray, the only thing that could have saved them from failure at this time of testing. Failure in our Christian life is absolutely certain without prayer. **Mark 14: 50** *they all forsook him.* We should never compare the failure of Peter and the other disciples at Jesus arrest to the spiritual and moral failure of pastors or overseers after Christ's death and resurrection. This is so for the following reasons. Peter and the disciples at the time of their failure were not yet under the new covenant. The new covenant did not go into effect until Christ shed His blood on the cross. Peter and the disciples had not yet experienced the new birth or regeneration by the Holy Spirit in the full New Testament sense. The Holy Spirit was not imparted to them in His indwelling and sanctifying presence until the day of Christ's resurrection when Christ breathed on them , and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost.

Verses for 13th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 105 : 23 to 45; 106:1 to 18, 42 to 48 Psalm 105: 4 *Seek the Lord, and his strength.* We are invited to seek also God's power and strength of His grace in order to persevere in salvation, live a life pleasing unto God and witness in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Psalm 106** *his mercy endureth for ever.* This psalm recounts Israel's rebellion and apostasy with respect to God's Word and ways. God's people must individually and collectively confess their shortcomings before the Lord.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 17 : 24 to 41 2 Kings 17: 24 *placed them in the cities of Samaria in order to destroy any remaining nationalism.* Intermarriage between Israelites and foreigners produced the people called Samaritans. The result was a mixture of foreign religious and cultural traditions with Hebrew customs and faith.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 14 : 51 to 65 Mark 14: 65 *they spit ...smote.* The sufferings of Christ, stage two. After His arrest at night and abandonment by His disciples, Jesus was brought before Ciaphas and the Jewish council. He was blindfolded mocked repeatedly, spat on and struck in the face.

Verses for 14th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 106: 19 to 48 ; 107: 1 to 22 Psalm 107: 6 *they cried unto the Lord.* Four times the psalmist uses this phrase and four times it is stated that God delivered them out of their distresses. God frequently brings His children to a place where their own self sufficiency fails and where no human being can help, in order that they might cry out to Him in humble and childlike faith. **Psalm 107: 13** *he saved them out of their distresses.* Note that even when we have only ourselves to blame for our troubles, God desires to deliver us thus even if we are experiencing great distress, knowing that God may be judging us, we can still put our hope in His mercy and cry out to Him in faith for His forgiveness and help.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 18: 1 to 25 2 Kings 18: 5 He trusted in the Lord After telling of the fall of Samaria and the northern kingdom, the author resumes the history of Judah, beginning with the reign of the good king Hezekiah. He was considered to be one of the greatest kings Judah ever had because of his trust in and reliance upon God. Hezekiah trusted deeply in the Lord, kept His commandments and exhorted the people to turn from sin and return to God. At the beginning of his reign he repaired and cleansed the house of the Lord, restored the priests and Levites to their ministry and reinstated the celebration of the Passover feast. He vigorously sought to destroy all idolatrous alters and high places in Judah.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 14 : 66 to 15 : 5 Peter's denying Christ began by keeping at a distance from him. Those that are shy of godliness, are far in the way to deny Christ. Those who think it is dangerous to be in the company with Christ's disciples, assume they may be drawn in to suffer for him. They will find it much more dangerous to be in company with their enemies, because there they may be drawn in to sin against him. When Christ was admired and flocked after, Peter readily owned him; but with no relation with him now he is deserted and despised. Yet observe, Peter's repentance was very speedy. Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall; and let him that has fallen think of these things, and of his own offences, and return to the Lord with weeping and supplication, seeking forgiveness, and to be raised up by the Holy Spirit.

Verses for 15th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 107: 23 to 43 and Psalm 108 What surprising changes are often made in the affairs of men! Let the present desolate state of Judea, and of other countries, explain this. If we look abroad in the world, we see many greatly increase, whose beginning was small. We see many who have thus suddenly risen, as suddenly brought to nothing. Worldly wealth is uncertain; often those who are filled with it, ere they are aware, lose it again. God has many ways of making men poor. The righteous shall rejoice. It shall fully convince all those who deny the Divine Providence. When sinners see how justly God takes away the gifts they have abused, they will not have a word to say. It is of great use to us to be fully assured of God's goodness, and duly affected with it. It is our wisdom to mind our duty, and to refer our comfort to him. A truly wise person will treasure in his heart this delightful psalm. From it, he will fully understand the weakness and wretchedness of man, and the power and loving-kindness of God, not for our merit, but for his mercy's sake. **Psalm 108** *my heart is fixed*. This psalm combines the words from 57 and 60. The psalmist is confident that ultimately God will deliver his people and give them victory over all their enemies.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 18:26 to 19:7 2 Kings 18: 30 *Neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the Lord*. For some unspecified reason, King Sennacherib of Assyria again invaded Judah with a large army and besieged Jerusalem. The Assyrian generals sought to intimidate Hezekiah and all of Jerusalem by defiantly belittling the Lord and mocking the people's trust in Him. This blasphemy against God resulted in an angelic intervention by God, whereby 185,000 men of Sennacherib's army were killed and Judah was delivered.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 15: 6 to 20 *Christ met death in its greatest terror*. It was the death of the vilest malefactors. Thus the cross and the shame are put together. God having been dishonoured by the sin of man, Christ made satisfaction by submitting to the greatest disgrace human nature could be loaded with. It was a cursed death; thus it was branded by the Jewish law as in Deuteronomy 21: 23. The Roman soldiers mocked our Lord Jesus as a King; thus in the high priest's hall the servants had mocked him as a Prophet and Saviour. Shall a purple or scarlet robe be matter of pride to a Christian, which was matter of reproach and shame to Christ? He wore the crown of thorns which we deserved, that we might wear the crown of glory which he merited. We were by sin liable to everlasting shame and contempt; to deliver us, our Lord Jesus submitted to shame and contempt. He was led forth with the workers of iniquity, though he did no sin. The sufferings of the meek and holy Redeemer, are ever a source of instruction to the believer, of which, in his

best hours, he cannot be weary. Did Jesus thus suffer, and shall I, a vile sinner, fret or repine?
Shall I indulge anger, or utter reproaches and threats because of troubles and injuries?

Verses for 16th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 109: 1 to 5, 21 to 31 and Psalm 110 *Psalm 109 Hold not thy peace , O God.* This psalm appeals to God to judge and punish those who are wicked and deceitful. This prayer reflects a concern that justice be done on earth through the righteous, punishment of serious criminals who hurt others for personal gain. To carry out just retribution is the only way to protect the innocent and assure that lawlessness will be held in check in society. The psalmist's prayer will find ultimate fulfillment only when God again sends His son Jesus to destroy all evil and to reign upon the earth. **Psalm 110** *The Lord said unto my Lord.* This psalm speaks of the lordship of the Messiah, His priesthood, His destruction of the wicked and His reign on earth. It clearly prophesies about Jesus Christ .

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 19 : 8 to 24 2 Kings 19: 15 Hezekiah prayed. Hezekiah took the defiant letter that demanded Jerusalem's surrender, spread it out before the Lord and prayed earnestly to Him. When troubles come into our lives and circumstances seem out of control, we must do just as Hezekiah did draw near to God in fervent and trusting prayer. God has promised to deliver His people from the hands of their enemies and permit nothing to happen that is out of His will, by clinging to God in trust and faith, we will have His peace to guard our hearts and minds.

2 Kings 19: 19 *that all may know that thou art the Lord God , even thou only.* Hezekiah's prayer for the glory of God and the vindication of His ways and purposes in history manifests the highest desire of all who love the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT + **Mark 15 : 21 to 32** The place where our Lord Jesus was crucified, was called the place of a skull; it was the common place of execution; for he was in all respects numbered with the transgressors. Whenever we look unto Christ crucified, we must remember what was written over his head; he is a King, and we must give up ourselves to be his subjects, as Israelites indeed. They crucified two thieves with him, and him in the midst; they thereby intended him great dishonour. But it was foretold that he should be numbered with the transgressors, because he was made sin for us. Even those who passed by mocked at him. They told him to come down from the cross, and they would believe. Though Jesus gave them a more convincing sign when he came up from the grave, yet they did not believe. With what earnestness will the man who firmly believes the truth, as made known by the sufferings of Christ, seek for salvation! With what gratitude will he receive the dawning hope of forgiveness and eternal life, as purchased for him by the sufferings and death of the Son of God and with what godly sorrow will he mourn over the sins which crucified the Lord of glory!

Verses for 17th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 111 to 114 Psalm 111 I will praise the Lord. This psalm praises the Lord for His physical and spiritual blessings and for His providential care over those who love and fear Him. The psalmist has determined to praise God not only privately, but also in the congregation.

Psalm 112 Blessed is the man. This psalm speaks of the blessings in store for a God fearing and righteous person. God promises to bless those who fear Him and delight in His commandments and written Word.. **Psalm 113** Praise ye the Lord. This psalm reiterates the two fold Biblical principle that God gives grace to the humble and has compassion on the poor and needy.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 19:25 to 20:11 2 Kings 19: 35 the angle of the Lord. Judah's miraculous deliverance from the Assyrians is one of the great redemptive moments in Old Testament history, recorded no less than three times in Scripture. The most powerful political kingdom on earth stood against the little nation of Judah. When defeat seemed inevitable, God intervened and delivered His people. In mercy, God manifested His willingness to renew the covenant and to be Judah's God and Protector if the people would place their trust in Him.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 15 : 33 to 47 There was a thick darkness over the land, from noon until three in the afternoon. The Jews were doing their utmost to extinguish the Son of Righteousness. The darkness signified the cloud which the human soul of Christ was under, when he was making it an offering for sin. He did not complain that his disciples forsook him, but that his Father forsook him. In this especially he was made sin for us. When Paul was to be offered as a sacrifice for the service saints, he could rejoice, Philippians 2:17; but it is another thing to be offered as a sacrifice for the sin of sinners. At the same instant that Jesus died, the veil of the temple was torn from the top to the bottom. This spake terror to the unbelieving Jews, and was a sign of the destruction of their church and nation. It speaks comfort to all believing Christians, for it signified the laying open a new and living way into the holiest by the blood of Jesus. The confidence with which Christ had openly addressed God as his Father, and committed his soul into his hands, seems greatly to have affected the centurion. Right views of Christ crucified will reconcile the believer to the thought of death; he longs to behold, love, and praise, as he ought, that Saviour who was wounded and pierced to save him from the wrath to come. We are here attending the burial of our Lord Jesus. Oh that we may by grace be planted in the likeness of it! Joseph of Arimathea was one who waited for the kingdom of God. Those who hope for a share in its privileges, must own Christ's cause, when it seems to be crushed. This man God raised up for his service. There was a special providence, that Pilate should be so strict in his inquiry, that

there might be no pretence to say Jesus was alive. Pilate gave Joseph permission to take down the body. Some of the women beheld where Jesus was laid, that they might come after the sabbath to anoint the dead body, because they had not time to do it before. Special notice was taken of Christ's sepulchre, because he was to rise again. And he will not forsake those who trust in him, and call upon him. Death, deprived of its sting, will soon end the believer's sorrows, as it ended those of the Saviour.

Verses for 19th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 118 and 119: 1 to 24 Psalm 118 his mercy endureth for ever. This psalm praises the Lord for His everlasting love for His people. It may have been the last words sung by Jesus and His disciples before He went to the Garden of Gethsemane, where He was arrested and led to His death. It will also be sung before the return of Christ at the end of the age . **Psalm 119** Blessed are the undefiled. This psalm expresses a majestic love for God's written Word. It deals with the Word as promise, guide, commandment, testimony, teaching wisdom, truth, righteousness and reproof. It is presented as the psalmist's comfort, protection, treasure, rule for life, delight to his heart and soul and resource for all his needs. This psalm is called acrostic.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 21: 1 to 26 2 Kings 21: 9 Manasseh seduced them to do more evil. During his long reign of 55 yrs, Manasseh plunged Judah into her darkest era of idolatry. This wicked king had nothing but contempt for the God of his father Hezekiah. He led God's people into greater evil than the pagan nations that Joshua had destroyed.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Mark 16: 1 to 19 (Read Mark 16: 14 to 18) The evidences of the truth of the gospel are so full, that those who receive it not, may justly be upbraided with their unbelief. Our blessed Lord renewed his choice of the eleven as his apostles, and commissioned them to go into all the world, to preach his gospel to every creature. Only he that is a true Christian shall be saved through Christ. Simon Magus professed to believe, and was baptized, yet he was declared to be in the bonds of iniquity: see his history in Acts 8:13 to 25. Doubtless this is a solemn declaration of that true faith which receives Christ in all his characters and offices, and for all the purposes of salvation, and which produces its right effect on the heart and life; not a mere assent, which is a dead faith, and cannot profit. The commission of Christ's ministers extends to every creature throughout the world, and the declarations of the gospel contain not only truths, encouragements, and precepts, but also most awful warnings. Observe what power the apostles should be endued with, for confirming the doctrine they were to preach. These were miracles to confirm the truth of the gospel, and means of spreading the gospel among nations that had not heard it.

Verses for 20th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 119 : 25 to 72 Psalm 119: 27 Make me to understand the way of thy precepts. God's Word can only be understood fully with His help through the Holy Spirit, to increase our understanding and to teach us His truth. Delighting in God's Word develops into an even deeper love for all God's ways. Because we have come to love Him, we love the Scriptures that reveal Him.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 22: 1 to 20 Josiah was the last of the righteous kings of Judah. At an early age 16yrs old he began earnestly to seek the Lord and four years later he began to purge Judah of false worship. As the temple was being repaired, Hilkiah found the Book of the Law written by Moses, this discovery brought a renewed commitment to God's Word, and a measure of spiritual reform was accomplished throughout the land. The prophets Jeremiah and Habakkuk aided Josiah in his attempt to bring the people back to God, for the spiritual condition of the people of Josiah's time.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Galatians 1: 1 to 10 Galatians 1: 4 deliver us from this present evil world. The first gospel message preached after the Pentecostal outpouring of the Holy Spirit contained the words Save yourselves from this untoward generation. **Galatians 1: 10** for if yet pleased men. One cannot be a genuine minister of the gospel and try to please people by compromising the truths of the gospel. When speaking, Paul's speech was not based to please men, but God, which trieth our hearts. All followers of the gospel of Christ must make it their aim to please God, even if it means displeasing some people.

Verses for 21st October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 119: 73 to 120 Psalms 119: 98 thy commandments hast made me wiser. Through our devotion to God's Word we learn to see life as God sees it, value what He values and love what He loves. We attune ourselves to the thoughts of God. **Psalm 119: 105** Thy word is..... a light unto my path. God's Word contains the spiritual principles that will help us avoid many sorrows, pitfalls and tragedies brought on by wrong decisions and choices, consequently, we must treasure its wisdom and steadfastly hold on to its precepts in all life situations.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 23: 1 to 30 2 Kings 23: 4 he burnt them. Josiah's reforms follow Scriptural principle that repentance for specific sins is essential to true revival. Whenever genuine repentance occurs, specific sins will be identified false believers expelled, worldly practices forsaken and godly standards restored. **2 Kings 23: 25** no king before him...neither after him arose there any like him. Josiah is described here as the most faithful and dedicated of all the kings who had reigned over God's people, including David himself In terms of personal commitment and faithfulness to God's Word, Josiah was the greatest.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Galatians 1:11 to 2:10 Galatians 2: 5 we gave place by subjection, no. Paul was gentle and patient in many things, but unyielding when it came to the truth of the gospel. The revelation that he received from Christ is the gospel that possess the power for the salvation of all who believe. Paul understood that this gospel may never be compromised for the sake of peace, unity or current opinion. Both the glory of Jesus Christ and the salvation of the lost were at stake. Today if we relinquish any part of the gospel according to New Testament revelation, we begin to erode the only message that saves us from eternal destruction.

Verses for 22nd October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 119: 121 to 160 Psalm 119: 151 Thou are near, O Lord. The psalmist experiences God's nearness in times of trouble because he loves the Lord and is devoted to meditating on His word. The Lord is near to all who love Him and His Word. If you have trouble in your life , take your Bible and let God's Spirit and Word revive your relationship with Him.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 23:31 to 24:7 2 Kings 24:1 Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar, the powerful king of Neo Babylonian empire reigned from 605---562 B.C. In 605 he invaded Palestine and took back to Babylon certain hostages from Jerusalem. This began the 70 year captivity of Judah predicted by Jeremiah. Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel prophesied during Nebuchadnezzar's time. The destruction and captivity of Judah by Nebuchadnezzar occurred in 3 phases. 1) 605 B.C. King Jehoiakim was conquered, along with temple treasures and royal personnel including Daniel and his 3 Hebrew friends, the king was bound in chains to be taken to Babylon. 2) In 597 B.C. Jerusalem was again invaded, and king Jehoiachin, the crest of the temple treasures, and 10,000 men, among whom was the prophet Ezekiel, were carried away to Babylon. 3) In 586 B.C. the Babylonians invaded Jerusalem for the final time, this time they destroyed the city and its temple, King Zedekiah and all but some of the poorest people were deported to Babylon.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Galatians 2:11 to 3:10 Galatians 2:12 fearing them ...of the circumcision. Those which were of the circumcision were Jewish Christians, especially in the Jerusalem Church, who believed that the Old Testament sign of the circumcision was necessary for all new covenant believers. They also taught that Jewish believers should not eat with any uncircumcised Gentile believers who did not follow Jewish customs and dietary restrictions. **Galatians 3:5** the Spirit...worketh miracles. The ongoing work of the Spirit in the Galatian Churches involved many miracles. For Paul received the Holy Spirit was not just invisible inward work, but also an experience that revealed itself in divine power among believers. The gifts of the Spirit were a determinative norm for the Spirit's presence and authority. Conversion and the Baptism in the Holy Spirit should continue to be evident in the working of miracles and other manifestations of the Spirit.

Verses for 23rd October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 120 to 125 Psalm 120 he heard me. The grand thought of this pilgrim psalm is that the God who created the heavens and earth also watches over the lives of all those who trust Him and His Word. No evil will be allowed to destroy their fellowship with Him. **Psalm 122: 1** the house of the Lord. God's house should be a place where the believer joyfully experiences intimate communion with the Lord, the fellowship of the Spirit and the love of fellow believers. **Psalm 123: 1** Unto thee lift I up mine eyes. This psalm describes humble believers who look continually and expectantly to God to put an end to the contempt and scorn shown towards them. It expresses the cry of those who are always watching for and desiring Christ's return to save His people from an ungodly and hostile world. **Psalm 124: 1** If it had not been the Lord who was on our side. If God is not with us, we have no chance to escape the pitfalls of life or ward off our spiritual enemy. The dangers and troubles we face may seem so overwhelming that no one but God and His miraculous power can save us, yet If God be for us, who can be against us ? No foe or situation can defeat us when God is on our side.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 24:8 to 25:7 2 Kings 24: 20 Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon. Zedekiah rebelled partly because false prophets had declared a positive message that God would destroy Babylon and not Judah. Jeremiah's message, though unpopular, proclaimed the opposite, that God would bring His rebellious people under the rule of Babylon. It was Jeremiah's message that came to pass, demonstrating that he was true prophet of the Lord. **2 Kings 25: 7** slew the sons of Zedekiah. Zedekiah, the youngest Son of Josiah, reigned for 11 years. He departed from the faith of his righteous father and often persecuted the prophet Jeremiah. Zedekiah could have avoided the tragedies that overtook him if he had listened to Jeremiah.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Galatians 3: 11 to 22 The just shall live by faith. Paul quotes Hebrews 2: 4 to illustrate justification by faith. Habakkuk emphasizes that one who is justified by faith possesses actual inward righteousness, for he contrasts the righteous person with the unrighteous person whose soul is not upright. Thus Paul believed justification involved an actual inner righteousness through the indwelling Holy Spirit. **Galatians 3: 14** blessing of Abraham. We are redeemed from the curse of sin and the law and receive the blessing of Abraham through Jesus Christ as a result we can receive the promise of the Spirit by faith with His life and power . **Galatians 3: 19** Wherefore then serveth the law? The word for law means teaching or direction. The law can refer to the Ten Commandments, the Pentateuch of any commandment in the Old Testament Paul's use of the law here would include the sacrificial system of the Mosaic covenant.

Verses for 24th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 126 to 131 Psalm 126: 1 When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion. This is a technical phrase that also means, When the Lord restored the prosperity of Zion. This restoration partially took place in 701 B.C. when Sennacherib's threat to take Jerusalem was turned back in fulfillment of prophecy, and the surrounding nations sent presents to Hezekiah. The restoration was fulfilled in even greater measure when the Jews returned to Jerusalem from Babylon in 538 B.C. **Psalm 127** Except the Lord build. Only what is from God and His blessing is truly valuable in life, conversely, if God is not in our lives, activities, goals and families, then all is in vain and will end in frustration and disappointment. Thus we should seek God's blessing and guidance in all things from the very beginning of our lives. **Psalm 130: 1** Out of the depths have I cried unto thee. Those who reap the misery and torment of their own sins can cry out to God with assurance that God will forgive, heal and bring them back into fellowship with Himself. God desires to show mercy to all who are in trouble, saving them from the slavery of sin in order that they might know His love, care and goodness.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Kings 25: 8 to 30 2 Kings 25: 21 Judah was carried away out of their land. When Judah was led away into captivity, the earthly political kingdom of David ended. But in spite of the destruction of the nation, the promise concerning David's descendants remained. God continued preparing for the coming of David's Son, the Christ, whose kingdom would have no end. Through David's Messianic descendant, God would eventually form a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Galatians 3:23 to 4:7 Galatians 3: 28 neither male or female Paul removes all ethnic, national, socioeconomic and gender barriers with regard to one's spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ. **Galatians 4: 6** the Spiritcrying Abba, Father. One of the Holy Spirit's tasks is to create in God's children a feeling of filial love that causes them to know God as their Father. The term Abba is Aramaic, meaning Father. It was the word Jesus used when referring to the heavenly Father.

Verses for 26th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 136 to 138 Psalm 136 for his mercy endureth for ever. This repeated refrain teaches us that God's mercy and love are foundation of all His works on our behalf and the fountainhead of all our thanksgiving. His love includes His mercy, faithfulness and kindness. **Psalm 137 : 1 to 4** Their enemies had carried the Jews captive from their own land. To complete their woes, they insulted over them; they required of them mirth and a song. This was very barbarous; also profane, for no songs would serve but the songs of Zion. Scoffers are not to be compiled with. They do not say, How shall we sing, when we are so much in sorrow? but, It is the Lord's song, therefore we dare not sing it among idolaters.

OLD TESTAMENT

Esther 1:1 in the days of Ahasuerus. The Ahasuerus of this book is more commonly known by his Greek name, Xerxes. He ruled as king over Persia from 486 to 465 B.C. Important dates in the book of Esther are 1) the captivity of the Jews by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 B.C. 2) the authorized return of the Jews from captivity in 538 B.C. 3) Esther's reign as queen of Persia beginning in 479 B. C. 4) Ezra's authorized trip from Babylon to Jerusalem in 458 B.C. Thus the events of Esther happened approximately 21 years before Ezra led a second group of exiles to Jerusalem.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Galatians 4: 8 to 31 Galatians 4: 19 I travail in birth. Pictures Paul's apostolic intercession, pain and travail to see Christ "formed " in the Galatians who have been alienated from Christ and have " fallen from grace" by trying to be " justified by the law". He represents them as needing a second spiritual birth and himself as a mother suffering once more with birth pangs in order that they might be established in Christ and Christ in them. **Galatians 4: 22** Abraham had two sons. Paul uses an illustration to show the difference between the old and new covenants. Hagar represents the old covenant established at Mount Sinai, her children now live under that covenant and are born after the flesh, they are not born of the Holy Spirit. Sarah Abraham's other wife represents the new covenant, her children possess the Holy Spirit and are believers of Christ.

Verses for 27th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 139, Psalm 140: 1 to 8, 12 & 13; Psalm 141 **Psalm 139** thou hast searched me. This psalm describes various aspects of God's attributes, especially His omnipresence and omniscience as these characteristics relate to His care for His people. The God of heaven and earth created us and has perfect knowledge of us, He is always with us, and His thoughts are always directed towards us in every situation. **Psalm 140** Deliver me, O Lord, from the evil man. We should ask to deliver us from the "evil one " Satan. As our greatest enemy, he seeks to destroy us. **Psalm 141** Incline not my heart to any evil thing. Those who love the Lord should pray that God will keep them from desiring, speaking or doing any evil. We must shun all compromise with wicked persons and refuse to be entertained by their pleasures.

OLD TESTAMENT

Esther 2: 1 to 18 **Esther 2: 4** Let the maiden...be queen instead of Vashti. The book of Esther, although it contains no explicit mention of God, shows His continuing providence over the Jewish people. He directs, overrules and uses the actions of men and women to accomplish His purposes and to preserve His chosen people. **Esther 2: 17** made her queen. That the Persian king appointed Esther as queen illustrates how God can turn the hearts of sinful people in order to serve His purposes. Esther was now in a position to help her people when the need arose about five years later. God used the free decisions of those involved to protect His people.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Galatians 5: 1 to 26 **Galatians 5: 4** fallen from grace. Some Galatians had transferred their faith in Christ to faith in legalistic observances of the law. Paul states that they have fallen away from grace. To fall away from grace is to be alienated from Christ, to abandon the principle of remaining in God's grace, which provides life and salvation. **Galatians 5: 6** faith which worketh by love. The Bible maintains that a person is saved through faith. In this passage Paul defines the exact nature of that faith. Saving faith is a living faith in a living Savior.

Verses for 28th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 142 to 144 Psalm 142 I cried unto the Lord with my voice. This psalm comes from one who was deeply troubled by a desperate situation. Although the psalmist is experiencing loneliness, the Lord still remains his refuge, friend and helper. **Psalm 144: 1** teacheth my hands to war. The psalmist was called upon to wage war for the nation of Israel. We can apply this message to believers in Christ, whom God calls to wage spiritual battle against Satan, the world and flesh. We must advance God's kingdom by proclaiming the gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit. By leading people to salvation.

OLD TESTAMENT

Esther 2:19 to 3:11 Esther 2: 20 as Mordecai had changed her. Although Esther had been chosen and crowned queen of the great Persian empire, she was not puffed up with pride. She manifested a true spirit of meekness, humility and submissiveness after becoming queen, even as she had done before. **Esther 3: 2** Mordecai bowed not Mordecai refused to bow before Haman because of his loyalty to God. **Esther 3: 4** he was a jew. Those around Mordecai wanted to know why he did not bow down. He gave them only one answer he was a jew. **Esther 3: 7** they cast Pur. Pur is something similar to dice. Haman used to determine the lucky day on which to destroy the Jews. **Esther 3: 8** their laws are diverse from all people One of God's purposes in giving the law to Israel was to make them different from all other people.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Galatians 6: 1 to 18 Galatians 6: 1 restore such a one. The word restore is used in the New Testament for mending fishing nets or for perfecting human character. Thus to restore a person means to lead him or her back to true repentance and to full commitment to Jesus Christ and His ways.

Verses for 29th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 145 & 146 Psalm 145: 2 Every day will I bless thee No day should pass without praising and thanking God for His blessings and gifts to us. He is our Maker, Redeemer and Provider.

Psalm 145: 8 The Lord is gracious. This oft- repeated refrain expresses God's delight in showing mercy. When He sees misery, it moves His heart to compassion, He is slow to become angry at our offenses and quickly shows love and mercy when forgiveness is requested. **Psalm 146** Praise ye the Lord. These psalms begin and end with "Praise ye the Lord", bringing the book of Psalms to a fitting climax. Note that the Jews called the entire book of Psalms Tehillim (Praises). Every worship service should include praise to God.

OLD TESTAMENT

Esther 3:12 to 4:8 Haman was the enemy of the *Jews. He wanted to select a lucky date when he could kill the *Jews. So he used the *Purim stones, which were a game of chance. God made sure that the *Purim stones chose a date nearly a year later. God had a special plan to save the *Jews from Haman's plot (Esther 3:7). Mordecai believed that God had made Esther queen. So Mordecai believed that God could use her to save the *Jews. But even if Esther did not speak on their behalf, God would still save the *Jews. Mordecai believed this also (Esther 4:12-14).

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 1: 1 to 17 1 Corinthians 1: 2 called to be saints. As the common Biblical term of all believers, saint emphasizes the scriptural way of righteousness and the necessity of that holiness be a internal reality for all who belong to Christ. **1 Corinthians 1: 17** Christ sent me not to baptize. Paul is not minimizing Jesus teaching concerning baptism. Rather he makes it clear that he delegated the performing of baptism to his associates.

Verses for 30th October 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 147 & 148 Psalm 147: 6 The Lord lifteth up the meek. The word meek often includes the idea of suffering and refers to those who are afflicted. Because such people cannot cope with all of life's problems and responsibilities by themselves, in humility they call upon God for His help and strength. God lifts up the meek and gives them support. The psalmist assures them of God's help and ultimate victory. As God supported the meek in Old Testament times, Jesus ministers to the afflicted and humble under the new covenant. Since God delights in those who are of a humble spirit, all believers should earnestly pray for a spirit of humility so that they may please Him.

OLD TESTAMENT

Esther 4:9 to 5:8 Esther 4: 14 Mordecai believed that it was God's purpose to use Esther to deliver Israel and that she had become queen for this reason. However, Mordecai knew that Esther could fall short of that purpose if she did not do her part in God's redemptive plan. If she refused to help the Jews, she too would be destroyed. God's sovereign purposes usually include human responsibility. God is involved in the events of the world in order to save His people from its evil and to accomplish, His redemptive plan on their behalf. All believers must remember God is working in what happens around us in order to deliver us from this present evil world and to bring us to be with Him forever.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 1: 18 to 31 1 Corinthians 1: 18 it is the power of God. The message of the cross not only involves wisdom and truth, but the active power of God coming down to save, heal, drive out demons and redeem from sin's power. **1 Corinthians 1: 20** the wisdom of this world The wisdom of the world is a wisdom that excludes God, emphasizes human self sufficiency, makes humanity the highest authority. This wisdom God calls foolishness. **1 Corinthians 1: 25** weakness of God. The foolishness and weakness of God in Christ crucified, provided a solution to the sin problem.that has baffled and defeated all worldly wisdom and power in human history. Thus God's weakness is stronger than humanity's greatest strength .

Verses for 31st October 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 149 and 150 Psalm 149: 6 high praises ...a two edged sword. This verse addresses the activity of the righteous in two areas, worship and spiritual warfare. Our desire to praise God must be accompanied by the desire to oppose aggressively Satan's kingdom and all evil. God's kingdom will never be fully realized until the hostile forces of darkness are destroyed. We must take our stand against the powers of evil by living a righteous life in faith, taking the sword of the Spirit Word of God and praying in the spirit. **Psalm 150** Praise ye the Lord. True praise of God will not be confined to the sanctuary. We can truly praise God only when we see His full greatness, and goodness, and recall and meditate on all that He has done in creation and redemption and in our personal lives. In this way praise becomes a powerful response of the heart expressing joy, gratitude and the desire for communication with our Lord. In addition to praising God with our songs and instruments in the sanctuary, we can praise God with a life of love and joy, with faith in Christ.

OLD TESTAMENT

Esther 5:9 to 6:14 Esther 5: 13 all this availeth me nothing. Although Haman had riches, glory, power and status, he was an unsatisfied and discontented man. Mordecai, on the other hand had strength and character, godly convictions and assurance in his God. Haman knew in his heart that Mordecai was a better man and thus hated him for it. In God's sight greatness is never found in riches, power or position but in faithfulness, commitment to Him and pursuit in His righteous goals on earth. **Esther 6: 1** he commanded to bring the book of records. The providential workings of God are clearly evident. He used the sleeplessness of the king to bring about the exaltation of Mordecai by his enemy. Day and night God watches over those who are faithful.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 2: 1 to 16 Those who receive the doctrine of Christ as Divine and having been enlightened by the Holy Spirit, have looked well into it, see not only the plain history of Christ, and him crucified, but the deep and admirable designs of Divine wisdom therein. It is the mystery made manifest to the saints, Colossians 1:26, though formerly hid from the heathen world; it was only shown in dark types and distant prophecies, but now is revealed and made known by the Spirit of God. Jesus Christ is the Lord of glory; a title much too great for any creature. There are many things which people would not do, if they knew the wisdom of God in the great work of redemption. There are things God hath prepared for those that love him, and wait for him, which sense cannot discover, no teaching can convey to our ears, nor can it yet enter our hearts. We must take them as they stand in the Scriptures, as God hath been pleased to reveal them to us.

Verses for 6th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 19 to 21 Psalms 19: 14 Let the words of my mouth...heart, be acceptable in thy sight. The proper response to the work of salvation in our lives is a constant prayer that God will keep our hearts, words and lives free from sin and pleasing to Him. Both the meditation of our hearts and the reflection of our minds should be acceptable to God. **Psalms 20:1 to 21:13** The Lord hear thee in the day of trouble. **Psalm 20 and 21** are companion psalms. They are prayers to God about the warfare of His people against their enemies. **Psalm 20** is a prayer before the battle. **Psalm 21** is a praise after the battle. For us who believe in Christ, Psalm 20 can be applied against unseen, yet very real, forces of evil, and we yearn for victory over and deliverance from Satan and demonic powers.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 1:10 to 2:16 Daniel 1: 17 God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning. Because the four young men were committed to God, God committed Himself to help them. If you are endeavoring to be faithful to God and His ways, rest assured that He will remain with you and give you the help and grace needed to accomplish His will. **Daniel 2: 4** in Syriack. Up to this point, the book of Daniel is written in Hebrew. Here it changes to Syriack (Aramaic), which was the language of trade and of government communication of that time. The use of Aramaic in Daniel continues through chapter 7; chapters 8 to 12 are again in Hebrew. **Daniel 2:16** Daniel...desired of the king that he would give him time. Being recent graduates, Daniel and his three friends were not called in before the king with the rest of the wise men, but the decree to kill all of them included those four as well. Daniel then approached the king and asked for time to interpret the dream. He needed time to pray and to receive God's assistance. So the four Hebrew men sought the Lord earnestly in prayer and waited for His revelation. Intercession alters things in the spiritual realm, which enables changes to occur in the natural realm through God's intervention.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 6:12 to 7:7 1 Corinthians 6: 12 All things are lawful unto me. This statement is clearly a quotation of an argument by Paul's opponents concerning their Christian freedom. They thought they had the freedom to do anything they wished. Paul clearly taught however, there were things that were not permissible for believers. **1 Corinthians 6: 19** your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost. As a Christian, your body is the personal dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. Because the Spirit lives in you and you belong to God, your body must never be defiled by any impurity.

Verses for 7th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 22 to 24 Psalms 22: 2 I cry...but thou hearest not. The believer, like Jesus Himself, may at times feel forsaken by God. When this occurs, hold fast to the revelation of God's love and goodness toward you and continue to pray and trust him. **Psalm 24: 4** clean hands and a pure heart. David emphasizes that those who want to worship and serve God and receive His blessing must be pursuing a pure heart and a righteous life. Clean hands are hands free from external acts of sin. A pure heart refers to inward holiness, right motives and goals. Only the pure in heart will see God.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 2: 17 to 49 Daniel 2: 19 to 23 Daniel blessed the God of heaven. Daniel's first thought after God revealed the dream and its interpretation was to praise the Lord for His goodness and power. To break out in spontaneous expressions of praise to God is characteristic of those who truly love and serve Him. **Daniel 2: 28 to 30** a God in heaven that revealeth secrets. Daniel took no personal credit for making the dream and its interpretation known to the king. We must be careful never to take the credit and glory for what God does through us. Because Daniel was humble, straightforward and honest about God, Nebuchadnezzar was able to make a proper response of acknowledging Daniel's God.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 7: 8 to 31 1 Corinthians 7: 12 speak I, not the Lord. Paul is not merely giving his own opinion here rather he says that he does not have a saying of Jesus to confirm what he is about to write. However he writes as one who has apostolic authority and is under divine inspiration. **1 Corinthians 7: 31** they that use this world. We live in a period when all worldly things are hastening toward an end. For this reason life in this world should not be our utmost concern, we should direct our greatest attention toward our heavenly home.

Verses for 9th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 29 to 31 Psalms 30 : 6 in my prosperity...I shall never be moved. Secure in his prosperity, the psalmist assumed that his wealth and success made him so strong that nothing could destroy his happiness. God then withdrew His protective hand and brought serious trouble and helplessness into his life, causing him to experience the need for God's continual care and presence. All believers who feel secure in themselves, who rely on temporal things, and who give God and his kingdom anything but first place in their lives are warned by the words of this psalm. **Psalm 31** deliver me in thy righteousness. This psalm is a deeply personal prayer expressing distress and lament because of enemies, illness and desertion by friends. Jeremiah used a phrase from this psalm to express his sorrow and fear. Jesus also quoted from it, while on the cross. This prayer expresses the heartfelt cry of all believers who suffer affliction because of illness, trouble, or oppression from the world or the enemies of righteousness. It reveals that in times of deep trouble, we can hide in the secret of thy presence.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 3: 1 to 18 Daniel 3: 17 & 18 Our God to whom we serve is able to deliver us. Neither the jealous insinuations of the Chaldeans nor the ugly threats of king Nebuchadnezzar frightened these three young men into compromising the integrity of their faith or their personal convictions. Instead, they gave bold and unhesitating witness to their allegiance to one true God.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 7:32 to 8:6 1 Corinthians 8: 2 he knoweth nothing. Those who base their right to do questionable things on their knowledge and mature understanding show that in reality they do not know as they ought. Our knowledge in this life is always incomplete and imperfect. Thus our actions must first be based upon love for God and others. Those who live by the rule of love are those who are known of him.

Verses for 10th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 32 & 33 **Psalms 32: 5** I acknowledge my sin Acknowledging and confessing sin with an honest, sincere and repentant heart will always result in God's gracious pardon, the removal of guilt and the gift of His abiding presence. **Psalms 32: 8** I will instruct thee. The Lord promises to instruct and guide a forgiven believer who has a teachable spirit, treasures God's presence and counsel, trusts in Him rejoices in Him, and continues upright in heart. **Psalms 33: 6** By the word of the Lordthe breath of his mouth. Ruach can also mean spirit, the breath of God is thus equivalent to the activity of God's Spirit. This verse contains an important Biblical truth, the union of the power of God's Spirit always releases the creative power of God on behalf of His people.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 3:19 to 4:9 **Daniel 3 : 24 to 25** the form of the fourth is like the Son of God. The king's reference to the fourth man walking about freely in the fire could be translated either the Son of God, or son of gods i.e. supernatural being since Nebuchadnezzar was still worshipper of many gods. The latter translation seems more probable. The fourth man could have been an angel or a preincarnate manifestation of Christ sent to protect the three friends of Daniel and be with them in their time of great trial. Note that the meaning of the three youths Hebrew names correspond to the deliverance God gave them The Lord was gracious (Hananiah) to them and the Lord helped (Azariah) them. The form of the fourth man in the fire was as one who was equal to God (Mishael)

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 8:7 to 9:14 **1 Corinthians 9: 1** Am I not an apostle ? Paul personally illustrates the principle set forth by willingly setting aside his own personal rights as an apostle in order not to hinder the gospel of Christ. **1 Corinthians 9: 14** should live by the gospel. Both the Old Testament and New Testament teach that those who are engaged in proclaiming the Word of God should be supported by those who receive spiritual blessing from it.

Verses for 11th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 34 & 35 Psalm 34: 19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous. The suffering of the righteous must be counter balanced by the revelation that the Lord wishes to deliver us out of all afflictions. When His purpose in permitting affliction is accomplished. He then delivers us from them either by direct supernatural intervention in this life or by victorious death and transference to the life hereafter. **Psalm 35** fight against them that fight against me. This psalm is called imprecatory psalm, meaning that the psalmist prays that God will bring judgement upon the enemies of His people and overthrow the wicked. They are prayers for deliverance from injustice, crime and oppression.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 4: 10 to 27 Daniel 4: 17 the most High ruleth. The king needed to learn that the Lord God is all-powerful and can place whomsoever He wants over the kingdoms of the world. **Daniel 4: 27** break off thy sins by righteousness. The very fact that Daniel called for the king to repent indicates that God's terrible judgment could be avoided. If Nebuchadnezzar would forsake his sins and turn to a righteous lifestyle, showing mercy to the poor whom he had oppressed, God would not carry out what He had revealed in the dream.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 9: 15 to 27 1 Corinthians 9: 19 I made myself servant unto all. Paul uses himself as an example of the principle of self denial for the sake of others. What he affirms is that he is prepared to conform to the convictions of those whom he is trying to help. **1 Corinthians 9: 24** the prize. The prize the incorruptible crown refers to the victory of eternal salvation, the precious goal of a Christian life. Run that ye may obtain. Paul illustrates the principle that if we fail to exercise self control, self denial and love in our relationships with others, we ourselves will be disqualified.

Verses for 12th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 36 & 37 **Psalms 36 : 4** he abhorreth not evil. The word evil refers to basic evil. Hatred of sin is an essential feature of God's character, it is fundamental aspect of Christ's ministry and kingship. People may be loving and kind and do good to the poor, yet if they have no indignation against wrong, contempt for the world's immoral ways, zeal for justice or hatred of evil, they have failed to stand with God or follow the Holy Spirit. Those who love the Lord, hate evil.

Psalms 37: 7 wait patiently for him. This psalm reveals how the righteous must react when the unrighteous prosper in spite of their evil and immoral ways. We must steadfastly persevere in the faith while waiting for God to bring about justice and to vindicate us. Patience while undergoing trouble or suffering is possible through the help of the Holy Spirit, who assures us that God will reward the righteous and punish the wicked.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 4:28 to 5:12 **Daniel 4: 34 to 37** mine understanding returned unto me. Seven is a number of completion, so at the end of seven seasons, Nebuchadnezzar's understanding returned. He not only understood what had happened to him, but he also recognized the power greatness and sovereignty of Daniel's God the Lord God of Israel. **Daniel 5 : 3** the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple. By drinking from the Lord's sacred vessels in honor of the pagan gods of Babylon, Belshazzar and his lords dishonoured the one true God and brought final judgment upon themselves. **Daniel 5: 12** the same Daniel. This verse describes Daniel as having excellent spirit, prophetic gifting and the wisdom to solve difficult problems. God still looks for men and women like Daniel who will humbly and faithfully represent Him in places of great influence.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 10 : 1 to 22 **1 Corinthians 10: 11** written for our admonition. The history of God's judgement of His people was written down in Scripture to provide those in the New Testament with ample warnings against sinning and falling from grace. **1 Corinthians 10: 13** God is faithful. Paul concludes his warning by assuring Christians that no true believer need fall into sin because of temptation.

Verses for 14th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 40 & 41 Psalm 40: 6 Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire. The psalmist understood that the sacrifices and the symbolic rituals required by God in His law were inadequate by themselves and were no substitute for genuine commitment and obedience. **Psalm 40: 8** I delight to do thy will The motto of Jesus whole life was Lo i come to do thy will, O God it is by Christ's obedience unto death that we have been sanctified in order that the law of God may be put into our hearts. Thus every believer must also affirm these words of Christ in his or her own life Lo i come to do thy will. **Psalm 41: 9** lift up his heel against me. Jesus quoted this verse and applied it to His betrayal by Judas Iscariot, who was a trusted friend.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 6: 1 to 19 Daniel 6: 3 the king thought to set him over whole realm. Daniel was the foremost of three presidents or administrators who assisted Darius in ruling the empire. Because of Daniel's excellent spirit which included extraordinary intelligence, the king planned to give him a new position above all administrators and satraps. It was due to God's goodness that at 80 years of age his mind was still sharp and his abilities undiminished. **Daniel 6: 10** Daniel ...prayed and gave thanks before his God. The king's decree did not cause Daniel to become timid and change his habit of praying, his windows remained open towards Jerusalem where the temple once stood. Though he knew of the danger, he did not let anything keep him from presenting his petitions to God.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 11: 17 to 34 1 Corinthians 11: 20 the Lord's supper. The Lord's Supper is described in four passages. The past significance- It is the remembrance of Christ's death for the believers redemption from sin and condemnation. The present significance- The Lord's supper is a fellowship with Christ and a participation in the benefits of His sacrificial death, as well as fellowship with other members of the body of Christ. The future significance- The Lord's supper is the foretaste of the future kingdom of God and the future Messianic banquet when all believers will be with the Lord.

Verses for 16th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 45 & 46 Psalm 45: 6 to 7 Thy throne, O God is forever and ever. These two verses find their ultimate fulfillment in Jesus Christ. Because Jesus Christ loved righteousness and hated wickedness, God appointed Him above all others. This appointing refers to the glory, blessedness and authority given to Jesus by God. **Psalm 46: 1 to 2** our refuge and strength. Although we all experience spiritual barrenness at times, this is not the norm, for God desires to be near His people with help and comfort. This psalm expresses trust and confidence in God during a time of instability and insecurity.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 6:20 to 7:8 Daniel 6: 23 because he believed in his God. Though the king tried to encourage Daniel to believe in his God, His voice the next morning did not express expectation that Daniel had been delivered, but God's angel had shut the lions mouth before the faithful prophet, and he was alive and well. This deliverance prompted Darius to testify to the power of a God who is greater than the power of lions. **Daniel 7: 8** little horn. The little horn symbolizes the last great ruler in the world -- the antichrist, the man of sin the beast who puts down three of the ten kings.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 12: 1 to 26 1 Corinthians 12:1 concerning spiritual gifts. Paul deals with the gifts or manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ for the mutual good of all members alike. Gifts of manifestations of the Spirit were an indispensable part of the early church's life together and ministry. God intends that these gifts continue in operation until Christ returns. **1 Corinthians 12: 25** members ...care for one another. Spiritual gifts should not be the basis for honoring a person or considering one believer as more important than another. Rather each person is placed in Christ's body according to the will of God, and its members are important.

Verses for 17th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 47 to 49 Psalm 48: 1 the city of our God. The city of our God and the great king is Jerusalem. It will be established for ever. What God began in the Old Testament He will complete in the new Jerusalem at the end of ages. **Psalm 49: 1 to 20** Hear this. This psalm stresses both the futility of trusting in riches and the transitory nature of all that this earth has to offer. The psalmist declares that the person whose life consists in an abundance of possessions or in worldly pleasures or fame rather than seeking God and His kingdom will perish.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 7 : 9 to 28 Daniel 7: 9 the Ancient of days did sit Ancient of days is another way of recognizing God as the Eternal One, the One Abraham acknowledged as the judging all people and all kingdoms at the end of time. The description of God in this verse also reveals His holiness. **Daniel 7: 24 to 25** another shall rise. The little horn will appear after the ten horns, at the end of this present age in the area of the old Roman empire. The little horn here is different from the little horn in Daniel chapter 8 verse 9.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 12:27 to 13:7 1 Corinthians 12: 28 God hath set some in the church. Paul gives here a partial list of the ministry gifts, leadership, apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. **1 Corinthians 13: 4 to 7** Charity suffereth long. This section describes love as an activity and a behavior, not just as an inner feeling or motivation. The various aspects of love included here characterize God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Every believer must seek to grow in this kind of love.

Verses for 18th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 50 & 51 Psalm 50: 15 call upon me in the day of trouble. The Lord invites all faithful believers to call continually upon Him in times of need and trouble. God desires to hear our prayers, to help us and to have His name exalted as God who rescues His people. **Psalm 51** A Psalm of David. The title ascribes this psalm of confession to David, when Nathan the prophet disclosed his sins of adultery and murder. God will not turn away a broken and contrite heart that is full of remorse for sin and heavy with grief because of wickedness. When our self-seeking proud attitude is brought low and we cry to God for His grace, we can be sure that we will be accepted by him.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 8: 1 to 27 Daniel 8: 1 the third year. The third year is 551 B.C. **Daniel 8: 3** a ram which had two horns. This ram represents the Medo- Persian empire. **Daniel 8: 5** The goat. The goat from the west is the Greek empire and its great horn represents Alexander the Great who died prematurely at the height of power, subsequently his empire was divided among his four generals. **Daniel 8: 9** a little horn. Out of one of the horns came a little horn, it refers to Antiochus Epiphanes, who in 168 B.C. set up an image of the Greek god Zeus in the temple and sacrificed a pig on the altar. Judas Maccabeus later recaptured Jerusalem and reconsecrated the temple and altar.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 13:8 to 14:12 Charity is much to be preferred to the gifts on which the Corinthians prided themselves. From its longer continuance, It is a grace, lasting as eternity. The present state is a state of childhood, the future that of manhood. Such is the difference between earth and heaven. What narrow views, what confused notions of things, have children when compared with grown men! Thus shall we think of our most valued gifts of this world, when we come to heaven. All things are dark and confused now, compared with what they will be hereafter. They can only be seen as by the reflection in a mirror, or in the description of a riddle; but hereafter our knowledge will be free from all obscurity and error. It is the light of heaven only, that will remove all clouds and darkness that hide the face of God from us. To sum up the excellences of charity, it is preferred not only to gifts, but to other graces, to faith and hope. Faith fixes on the Divine revelation, and assents thereto, relying on the Divine Redeemer. Hope fastens on future happiness, and waits for that; but in heaven, faith will be swallowed up in actual sight, and hope in enjoyment. There is no room to believe and hope, when we see and enjoy. But there, love will be made perfect. There we shall perfectly love God. And there we shall perfectly love one another. Blessed state! how much surpassing the best below! God is love, 1 John 4:8,16.

Where God is to be seen as he is, and face to face, there charity is in its greatest height; there only will it be perfected.

Verses for 19th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 52 to 54 Psalm 54: 4 God is mine helper. This psalm is appropriate for the believer facing dangers or imminent disaster. The psalmist calls for help, expecting that God will respond in his saving, delivering and healing power. Today the Lord sends the Holy Spirit to be our helper on earth and the sustainer of our souls.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 9: 1 to 19 Daniel learned from the books of the prophets, especially from Jeremiah, that the desolation of Jerusalem would continue seventy years, which were drawing to a close. God's promises are to encourage our prayers, not to make them needless; and when we see the performance of them approaching, we should more earnestly plead them with God. **Daniel 9: 5** We have sinned. Daniel did not sit back and passively wait for the promised restoration to come about, instead he began to intercede earnestly with prayer and fasting for the fulfillment of God's Word. Daniel began his intercessory prayer by recognizing the awe inspiring greatness of God, His faithful love and His covenant mercy shown to those who love and obey Him. Then he made his confession, identifying himself with the people of Israel who had sinned and rebelled against God. He asked for Jerusalem restoration not because of any righteousness on the part of Daniel or of Israel, but "for the Lord's sake", when God responded, He demonstrated His great mercy and loving compassion as a God who fulfills His promises.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 14: 13 to 40 1 Corinthians 14: 19 Yet in the church. In the church Paul preferred to utter a few words that people could understand than to speak ten thousand words without interpretation. **1 Corinthians 14: 24** believeth not ...judged of all. One of the surest signs that the Holy Spirit is present and at work in any congregation is His conviction of sin, righteousness and judgment. **1 Corinthians 14: 26** all thingsunto edifying. The principal purpose of all spiritual gifts is to strengthen the church and the individual, to promote spiritual life, maturity and godly character in believers.

Verses for 20th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 55 & 56 Psalm 55: 22 Cast your burden upon the Lord, when facing trials too great to bear. God invites us to cast our burdens and cares upon Him. He then bears the weight of them with us and sustains us in every situation. The Holy Spirit has repeated this invitation throughout redemptive history. Jesus gave this invitation. The apostle Peter stated that believers should humble themselves before God casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you. And apostle Paul exhorted us to bring all our anxieties to God in prayer, promising that the peace of God will guard our hearts and minds. **Psalm 56: 4** I will praise his word. In times of fear and trouble we should praise God for His righteous commandments, His promises and every sentence He pronounces in the Scriptures. As we place our trust in God and His written Word, trust replaces fear and becomes our helper and deliverer. Remember the truth God is for me.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 9:20 to 10:9 Daniel 9: 24 Seventy weeks. Daniel's prophecy here concerning Israel and the holy city is crucial for the last days of this age. The word translated "weeks" here means a unit of seven years, thus seventy weeks is a period of 490 years. Six specific things would be accomplished for Israel during the 490 years. **Daniel 10: 5** a certain man clothed in linen. Daniel was visited by a heavenly being, probably an angel, for the messenger spoke of being hindered by the prince of the Persian Kingdom, and of needing the help of Micheal.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 15:1 to 19 1 Corinthians 15: 2 if ye keep in memory what I preached. Believers have faith in Jesus Christ as He is revealed in the full message of the gospel. Their faith in Christ is always bound to the Word of God and the doctrine of the apostles. They are people captive to God's Word, using Scripture to test all human ideas and accepting nothing that is contrary to the Bible.

Verses for 21st November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 57, 59: 1 to 4, and 9 to 17 Psalm 57: 1 in the shadow of thy wings. The shadow of God's wings represents His love, protection, strength and gracious presence. We take refuge under those wings when we come to Him in prayer and rely on Him in faith. In the shadow of His wings we are protected from everything that would work contrary to His purpose, for our lives. **Psalm 58: 10** The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance. This verse expresses the joy and satisfaction that God's people experience when evil is defeated and overthrown.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 10:10 to 11:8 *Whenever we enter into communion with God, it becomes us to have a due sense of the infinite distance between us and the holy God. How shall we, that are dust and ashes, speak to the Lord of glory? Nothing is more likely, nothing more effectual to revive the drooping spirits of the saints, than to be assured of God's love to them. From the very first day we begin to look toward God in a way of duty, he is ready to meet us in the way of mercy. Thus ready is God to hear prayer. When the angel had told the prophet of the things to come, he was to return, and oppose the decrees of the Persian kings against the Jews. The angels are employed as God's ministering servants, Hebrews 1:14. Though much was done against the Jews by the kings of Persia, God permitting it, much more mischief would have been done if God had not prevented it. He would now more fully show what were God's purposes, of which the prophecies form an outline; and we are concerned to study what is written in these Scriptures of truth, for they belong to our everlasting peace. While Satan and his angels, and evil counsellors, excite princes to mischief against the church, we may rejoice that Christ our Prince, and all his mighty angels, act against our enemies; but we ought not to expect many to favour us in this evil world. Yet the whole counsel of God shall be established; and let each one pray, Lord Jesus, be our righteousness now, and thou wilt be our everlasting confidence, through life, in death, at the day of judgment, and for evermore.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 15: 20 to '34 All that are by faith united to Christ, are by his resurrection assured of their own. As through the sin of the first Adam, all men became mortal, because all had from him the same sinful nature, so, through the resurrection of Christ, shall all who are made to partake of the Spirit, and the spiritual nature, revive, and live for ever. There will be an order in the resurrection. Christ himself has been the first-fruits; at his coming, his redeemed people will be raised before others; at the last the wicked will rise also. Then will be the end of this present state of things. Would we triumph in that solemn and important season, we must now submit to

his rule, accept his salvation, and live to his glory. Then shall we rejoice in the completion of his undertaking, that God may receive the whole glory of our salvation, that we may for ever serve him, and enjoy his favour. What shall those do, who are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? Perhaps baptism is used here in a figure, for afflictions, sufferings, and martyrdom, as written in Matthew 20: 22,23. What is, or will become of those who have suffered many and great injuries, and have even lost their lives, for this doctrine of the resurrection, if the dead rise not at all? Whatever the meaning may be, doubtless the apostle's argument was understood by the Corinthians. And it is as plain to us that Christianity would be a foolish profession, if it proposed advantage to themselves by their faithfulness to God; and to have our fruit to holiness, that our end may be everlasting life. But we must not live like beasts, as we do not die like them. It must be ignorance of God that leads any to disbelieve the resurrection and future life. Those who own a God and a providence, and observe how unequal things are in the present life, how frequently the best men fare worst, cannot doubt as to an after-state, where every thing will be set to rights. Let us not be joined with ungodly men; but warn all around us, especially children and young persons, to shun them as a pestilence. Let us awake to righteousness, and not sin.

Verses for 23rd November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 62 to 65 Psalm 62: 1 from him cometh my salvation. This psalm expresses a fundamental truth by which every believer should live. In times of trouble, affliction or opposition from enemies, we should turn to God as our ultimate refuge and deliverer. Every believer who trusts in God should be able to say. **Psalm 63: 2** To see thy power and thy glory...in the sanctuary. Not only should we earnestly seek God's presence in our personal lives, but we should also long for His Spirit, power and glory to be manifested in His house. **Psalm 64** Preserve my life from fear of the enemy. The psalmist prays to God for protection from the plots and deception of his enemies. We can apply this prayer to our spiritual battles with Satan. We must pray to be protected from the evil one and those whom he uses against us **Psalm 65: 4** Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to approach unto thee. Our greatest joy is to be near God and to enjoy communion with Him, this is now possible for all believers through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and through the indwelling Holy Spirit.

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 11: 9 to 31 Daniel 11: 28 his heart shall be against the holy covenant. Antiochus developed a hatred of the Jews and their covenant law. He was persuaded that Greek culture and language was superior to any other culture and language, as he hated the Jews because their religion was exclusive.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 15: 35 to 49 How are the dead raised up? that is, by what means? How can they be raised? As to the bodies which shall rise. Will it be with the like shape, and form, and stature, and members, and qualities? The former objection is that of those who opposed the doctrine, the latter of curious doubters. To the first the answer is, This was to be brought about by Divine power; that power which all may see does somewhat like it, year after year, in the death and revival of the corn. It is foolish to question the Almighty power of God to raise the dead, when we see it every day quickening and reviving things that are dead. To the second inquiry; The grain undergoes a great change; and so will the dead, when they rise and live again. The seed dies, though a part of it springs into new life, though how it is we cannot fully understand. The works of creation and providence daily teach us to be humble, as well as to admire the Creator's wisdom and goodness. There is a great variety among other bodies, as there is among plants. There is a variety of glory among heavenly bodies. The bodies of the dead, when they rise, will be fitted for the heavenly bodies. The bodies of the dead, when they rise, will be fitted for the heavenly state; and there will be a variety of glories among them. Burying the dead, is like committing seed to the earth, that it may spring out of it again. Nothing is more loathsome than a

dead body. But believers shall at the resurrection have bodies, made fit to be for ever united with spirits made perfect. To God all things are possible. He is the Author and Source of spiritual life and holiness, unto all his people, by the supply of his Holy Spirit to the soul; and he will also quicken and change the body by his Spirit. The dead in Christ shall not only rise, but shall rise thus gloriously changed. The bodies of the saints, when they rise again, will be changed. They will be then glorious and spiritual bodies, fitted to the heavenly world and state, where they are ever afterwards to dwell. The human body in its present form, and with its wants and weaknesses, cannot enter or enjoy the kingdom of God. Then let us not sow to the flesh, of which we can only reap corruption. And the body follows the state of the soul. He, therefore, who neglects the life of the soul, casts away his present good; he who refuses to live to God, squanders all he has.

Verses for 24th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 66 & 67 Psalm 66: 18 If I regard iniquity in my heart. Those who take pleasure in unrighteousness have no hope of answered prayer when they call on God. God wants us separated from sin, only then will He respond to us as a Father to a son. **Psalm 67: 1** and 2 God ...bless us... That thy way may be known upon earth. This psalm reminds us of God's plan for His people when He first called Abraham God chose this man so that through his descendants God and His redemptive love might become known to the nations of the world. He intended that Israel's reception and enjoyment of His grace and blessings would cause the heathen nations to take notice, so that they might praise Him and accept His ways of truth and righteousness.


OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 11:32 to 12:13 Daniel 11: 32 the people that do know their God shall be strong. Flattery corrupted some Jews and caused them to join Antiochus, but God always had a faithful remnant among the Jews in Old Testament times. In this situation too, there were Jews who knew God and remained loyal to Him. Though the persecution by Antiochus continued, the faithful Jews under the leadership of Judas Maccabeus of the Hasmonean priestly family offered strong resistance and carried on a guerilla warfare that eventually wore down Antiochus and caused him to take his armies home, thereupon the temple was cleansed and the lamps relit, an event still celebrated by the Jews as the feast of Hanukkah.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 15:50 to 16:12 The good examples of other Christians and churches should rouse us. It is good to lay up in store for good uses. Those who are rich in this world, should be rich in good works, (1 Timothy 6:17,18). The diligent hand will not make rich, without the Divine blessing, Proverbs 10:4,22. And what more proper to stir us up to charity to the people and children of God, than to look at all we have as his gift? Works of mercy are real fruits of true love to God, and are therefore proper services on his own day. Ministers are doing their proper business, when putting forward, or helping works of charity. The heart of a Christian minister must be towards the people among whom he has laboured long, and with success. All our purposes must be made with submission to the Divine providence, (James 4:15). Adversaries and opposition do not break the spirits of faithful and successful ministers, but warm their zeal, and inspire them with fresh courage. A faithful minister is more discouraged by the hardness of his hearers' hearts, and the backslidings of professors, than by the enemies' attempts.

Verses for 25th November 2020

Psalms 

Psalm 68 : 1 to 20, 24 to 35; Psalm 69: 1 to 21, 29 to 36; Psalm 68:18 Thou hast ascended on high. This verse describes God's triumphal march in Israel's history , culminating with the establishment of His rule in Jerusalem. It also foreshadows Christ's ascension into heaven to rule as head of the church and to bring many into the kingdom of God. **Psalm 69: 9** the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up. The psalmist bears rejection, shame and alienation because of his righteous zeal for God's house and kingdom. He has spoken against sin and has pleaded for revival, cleansing and reformation among God's people, for this he has suffered at the hands of those who were comfortable with the spiritual status quo.

OLD TESTAMENT 

Lamentations 1: 1 to 15 Lamentations 1: 5 hath afflicted her for..her transgressions. The catastrophe of suffering, devastation and loss is attributed to the people's sin. It is they who have brought judgement upon themselves. Continuing in sin always results in destructive consequences and eventual judgment. **Lamentations 1: 12** the day of his fierce anger. Some believers emphasize God's love and forgiveness and ignore His fierce anger against all who refuse to heed His call to righteousness. The view that Christ tolerates sin and immorality because of His love finds no support in Scripture. In order to gain insight into the coming wrath of God, be sure to read and study the book of revelation.

NEW TESTAMENT †

1 Corinthians 16: 13 to 24; 2 Corinthians 1: 1 to 7 1 Corinthians 16: 22 Maranatha. The Aramaic expression maranatha was probably used as a prayer or greeting among Christians. The early church was constantly praying that Christ might return soon. Christians are those who long for His appearing and express their longing in word and deed. **2 Corinthians 1: 5** sufferings..consolation Throughout this letter, Paul emphasizes that Christian life includes both suffering and comfort with Christ.

Verses for 26th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 70 & 71 Psalm 71: 9 In the time of old age. When strength is failing and the troubles of aging are more evident, we should recall God's guidance in days Gone by and look to Him as our protector, helper and sustainer for the last days of life. And at the hour of death when physical strength fails, we should know that He will not forsake us but will be near as He brings us by the holy angels into His heavenly presence.

OLD TESTAMENT

Lamentations 1:16 to 2:8 Lamentations 1: 18 behold my sorrow. This verse expresses the main theme of Lamentations sin brings sorrow. A person may enjoy the pleasures of sin and immorality for a time, but eventually slavery to Satan and the consequences of one's sinful desires will become evident. Distress, despair and destruction will come to all who do not turn to God in repentance.

NEW TESTAMENT †

2 Corinthians 1: 8 to 24 2 Corinthians 1: 11 You also helping together by prayer. An indisputable Biblical principle is that our prayers for others will release God's power and activity in others lives. Because of this, we should be encouraged to intercede for those in need. **2 Corinthians 1: 20** Amen. The concluding "Amen" of the Christian's prayer and proclamation expresses confidence in God's love and faithfulness and the certainty of His promises. It is the voice of faith, reaffirming and identifying with the truth of Christ's unshakeable gospel. In the Lord Jesus is called the 'Amen '.

Verses for 27th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 72 & 73 Psalm 72 This psalm is a prayer of Solomon as Israel's king that his reign will be characterized by justice, righteousness, peace, the destruction of evil, and deliverance for the oppressed and needy. **Psalm 73 :23 to 28** Nevertheless I am continually with thee. The psalmist discovers the attitude that leads to the triumph of faith. In this life with all its problems, our greatest good is intimate communion with God. Let the wicked prosper, our hope, treasure and life is God Himself always with us, guiding by His word and Spirit.

OLD TESTAMENT

Lamentations 2: 9 to 22 Lamentations 2: 5 The Lord was as an enemy. To have once known the Lord and then turned from Him to the pleasures of sin is to make God an enemy. Israel and Judah did so, and they suffered greatly as a result. A time does come when God, who is rich in love and mercy, will judge nations or individuals who spurn His love, harden their hearts and remain stubbornly independent. **Lamentations 2: 18** let tears run down. Jeremiah calls the people to prayer, weeping and repentance, with the hope that God would hear the intercessory cry of the remnant.

NEW TESTAMENT †

2 Corinthians 2: 1 to 17 2 Corinthians 2: 6 Sufficient...is this punishment. From this passage we gain insight into the New Testament pattern of discipline toward a member of the church who commits a serious offense. Note that forgiveness and love were not given unconditionally to the offender. **2 Corinthians 2: 14** triumph in Christ. Paul describes believers as being displayed by God to the world as a triumph and trophy of Christ's redeeming grace. Through this triumphal procession the knowledge of Christ and the redeemed lives of believers are manifested as a sweet fragrance before God and humans. To God it is pleasing, to humans it results in life or death.

Verses for 28th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 74 & 75 Psalm 74 O God, why hast thou cast us off for ever? The psalmist prays that God's chastisement may not be forever. This prayer warns us that God's patience will not tolerate sin, indefinitely, eventually sorrow and calamity will come. **Psalm 75: 8** in the hand of the Lord there is a cup. The picture of God giving the wicked an intoxicating drink is used in the Scripture as a symbol of His wrath and punishment. David states, Thou hast made us drink the wine of astonishment, wine that makes us stagger.

OLD TESTAMENT

Lamentations 3: 1 to 24 Lamentations 3: 1 I am the man. The afflicted people of Israel are portrayed as a human being who is under the punishment of God, yet who has the hope of restoration. Such a person claims the truth that God's love and help will come to those who repent and continue to wait upon the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT †

2 Corinthians 3 : 1 to 18 2 Corinthians 3: 17 the Spirit ...there is liberty. The freedom that comes through Christ, is the first and foremost, liberation from the condemnation and slavery of sin. True liberation begins with the believers Union with Christ.

Verses for 30th November 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 78 Psalm 78 : 5 they should make them known to their children. Teaching our children the godly principles and precepts of God's Word is not optional, it is a commandment He has given to His people. What God commands, He gives grace to fulfill. **Psalm 78: 37** their heart was not right with him, neither were they steadfast in his covenant. The Israelites failed to set their hearts to follow God faithfully and completely throughout their lives. Essential to maintaining a right relationship with God is the fundamental resolve to remain faithful to God and His covenant until our day of final redemption.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 9: 1 to 21 Isaiah 9: 1 to 7 the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation. Isaiah speaks of the coming deliverer who would one day lead God's people to joy, peace, righteousness and justice, this person is the Messiah---Jesus Christ, the Son of God . This prophesy reveals several important truths about the coming Messiah.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Philippians 1: 1 to 28 The apostle was a prisoner at Rome; and to take off the offence of the cross, he shows the wisdom and goodness of God in his sufferings. These things made him known, where he would never have otherwise been known; and led some to inquire after the gospel. He suffered from false friends, as well as from enemies. How wretched the temper of those who preached Christ out of envy and contention, and to add affliction to the bonds that oppressed this best of men! The apostle was easy in the midst of all. Since our troubles may tend to the good of many, we ought to rejoice. Whatever turns to our salvation, is by the Spirit of Christ; and prayer is the appointed means of seeking for it. Our earnest expectation and hope should not be to be honoured of men, or to escape the cross, but to be upheld amidst temptation, contempt, and affliction. Let us leave it to Christ, which way he will make us serviceable to his glory, whether by labour or suffering, by diligence or patience, by living to his honour in working for him, or dying to his honour in suffering for him.

Verses for 9th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 97 to 99 Psalm 97: 10 Ye that love the Lord hate evil. Those who claim to love the Lord will be tested by how much they hate evil while living upon this earth. A truly regenerated believer, made one with Christ and indwelt by the Holy Spirit, will love what God loves and hate what He hates. **Psalm 98: 9** he cometh to judge the earth. This verse will find its ultimate fulfillment in our Lord's return to judge the world, eliminate sin and sorrow and renew the heavens and earth. Nature itself will rejoice as it participates in the final redemption when Christ rules the earth in righteousness and justice. **Psalm 99: 6** They called upon the Lord and he answered them. Although God is holy and to be feared, he has come down to us through Jesus Christ. He seeks our fellowship and delights in hearing and answering His people's prayers. Moses, Aaron and Samuel are listed as those who had special relationship with God through their intercessory prayers.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 17:12 to 18:7 The rage and force of the Assyrians resembled the mighty waters of the sea; but when the God of Israel should rebuke them, they would flee like chaff, or like a rolling thing, before the whirlwind. In the evening Jerusalem would be in trouble, because of the powerful invader, but before morning his army would be nearly cut off. Happy are those who remember God as their salvation and rely on his power and grace. The trouble of the believers and the prosperity of their enemies, will be equally short; while the joy of the former and the destruction of those that hate and spoil them, shall last for ever.

NEW TESTAMENT †

2 Thessalonians 1: 1 to 12 2 Thessalonians 1: 5 The righteous judgement of God. The Thessalonians were persevering in faith amid persecution and trials. Their attitude was a manifest token of God's righteous judgement. Meaning that God judged the Thessalonians to be worthy of His grace and the kingdom for which they were suffering. Their unjust suffering was also a sign that the persecutors in opposing God's own people would experience God's just retribution.

Verses for 10th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 100 to 102 Psalm 100 <https://www.easyenglish.bible/psalms/psalm100-taw.htm>

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 19: 1 to 25 Isaiah 19: 1 to 15 Egypt. Isaiah foretells a judgement of God coming upon Egypt, consequently, it would do Judah no good to align herself with Egypt against the invading Assyrians. **Isaiah 19: 16 to 25** on that day. Isaiah gives four prophecies to be fulfilled on that day. The Egyptians would fear Judah when they realised their judgement had come from God. After a time of affliction, cities in Egypt would worship the Lord, the alters would be erected to Him. The Egyptians would cry out to God, who would then send them a Savior, and many would turn to the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT †

2 Thessalonians 2: 1 to 17 When we hear of the apostacy of many, it is a great comfort and joy, that there is a remnant according to the election of grace, which does and shall persevere; especially we should rejoice, if we have reason to hope that we are of that number. The preservation of the saints, is because God loved them with an everlasting love, from the beginning of the world. The end and the means must not be separated. Faith and holiness must be joined together as well as holiness and happiness. The outward call of God is by the gospel; and this is rendered effectual by the inward working of the Spirit. The belief of the truth brings the sinner to rely on Christ, and so to love and obey him; it is sealed by the Holy Spirit upon his heart. We have no certain proof of any thing having been delivered by the apostles, more than what we find contained in the Holy Scriptures. Let us then stand fast in the doctrines taught by the apostles, and reject all additions, and vain traditions.

Verses for 11th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 103 & 104: 1 to 23 Here are some lines from a famous Christian song. They use ideas from Psalm 103. Can you find which verses they use? The meanings of some of the words are in brackets (). *Praise, my *soul, the King of *Heaven, To his feet your tribute (*praises) bring, Ransomed (*redeemed), healed (made well), restored (God's friend again), *forgiven, Who like you his *praise should sing? Father-like he tends (helps) and spares (is kind to) us, Well our feeble (weak) frame (body) he knows, In his hands he gently bears (carries) us, Rescues us (makes us safe) from all our foes (enemies). *Angels, help us to adore (love) him, You behold (can see) him face to face, Sun and moon bow down before him, Dwellers (people who live) all in time and space.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 20:1 to 21:10 **Isaiah 20: 3** a sign and wonder. Isaiah obeyed God even though it meant shame and embarrassment to him for three years. If our obedience to God and our separation from ungodly ways are as they should be, then we can also expect at times to suffer reproach, embarrassment and humiliation. Righteousness and persecution often go together. **Isaiah 21: 1 to 10** the desert of the sea. God gives Isaiah a second vision of the downfall and destruction of Babylon, which lay just north of the Persian Gulf.

NEW TESTAMENT †

2 Thessalonians 3: 1 to 18 **2 Thessalonians 3: 6** walketh disorderly. Those who were idle were people who were loafing and unwilling to work. They were talking generosity of the church. Paul says such people must be disciplined. **2 Thessalonians 3: 12** with quietness they work. Believers should be industrious, diligent and faithful laborers as part of their testimony to the world, in order to provide adequately for themselves and their families, to support God's work to help others in need.

Verses for 12th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 104: 24 to 35; psalms 105: 1 to 22 What Psalm 105: 1 to 6 means LORD is a special name for God. His people use it. They are the people who love and obey him. They are his servants, as Abraham was, verse 6. He was their father, or forefather. This means that he lived long before them. But they were part of his family, even hundreds of years later! The Hebrew words for "Abraham your father" mean "seed of Abraham". This gives us a picture. The seed that Abraham planted became the country of Israel! Jacob was Abraham's grandson. The LORD chose Jacob, but did not choose his brother Esau. The 12 sons of Jacob, and their children, and grandchildren, and so on, became the people we call Israel. Israel was another name for Jacob. The Bible often calls them "sons of Jacob", but they lived long after Jacob did. Today we call them Jews, because Judah (say it "Jewdar") was the last name for their country in the Bible. The word "Lord" in the verse at the start is a different word but it means the same. It means God. "Proud" in verse 3 has a good meaning and a bad meaning. The bad meaning is this. Proud people think that they are more important than they really are. The good meaning is this. We are proud (or happy) when something good has happened. When our football team (group) wins a game, we are proud of them! The psalm tells us to be proud of God's holy name. His name means everything about God. This includes the fact that he is holy. This means that he has never done anything bad. He is so good that we all feel a bit afraid of him. In verse 5, "his miracles" are the things that he did. They were things that only God the LORD could do. Men could not do them. Jesus did many miracles, as when he made the storm quiet and when he gave life to the dead man Lazarus. Jesus could do this because he is God. But the miracles in Psalm 105 are the things that God did in Egypt and later. They include the things that he did to Pharaoh. Pharaoh was the king of Egypt. We call these things the ten "plagues" or "bad things". Psalm 78 includes 6 of the plagues, but Psalm 105 has 8 of them. They are in verses 29 to 36.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 21:11 to 22:14 **Isaiah 21: 11** Dumah is an alternate name for Edom, the land of Esau's descendants. Edom was located immediately south of Judah and the Dead Sea. Isaiah 22: 12 and 13 When God's people compromise with the world and turn away from obeying God's righteous ways, He calls them to repent, confess their spiritual poverty and seek His face. Christ wants all churches to examine their spiritual state in the light of New Testament and its standard. Like Isaiah today's prophets should call for repentance, humility tears, prayer and fasting.

NEW TESTAMENT †

James 1: 1 to 15 **James 1: 2** temptations. The word temptation refers to some form of difficulty or pressure in our lives, that God uses to try and prove our faith, and to develop perseverance and

Godly character, do that we may be perfect and entire wanting nothing. **James 1:14** drawn away of his own lust. We are susceptible to Satan's temptations essentially because of our sinful nature within us and its evil desires or inclinations. If evil desires is not resisted and purged by the help of the Holy Spirit, it leads to sin and then spiritual death.

Verses for 14th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 106: 19 to 48; 107: 1 to 22 Psalm 106 Psalm 106 tells us some of the story of Moses leading the people to Canaan. It also tells us some of the things that they did later in Canaan. Canaan was the country where God's people lived. North Canaan became Israel and south Canaan became Judah. In verses 19 to 23, we have the story of the *calf that they made out of gold. The story is in Exodus 32. Horeb is another name for Mount Sinai, a mountain between Egypt and Canaan. There Moses spoke with God on the mountain. While they were talking, the people asked Aaron to make a *calf. A calf is a young cow. Aaron made one out of gold. They *worshipped the calf that Aaron made instead of God. "Worship" means love someone and say how great they are. Really, they *worshipped an *image. An image is not alive. It looks as something that is alive looks. This image looked as a calf looks, but they made it out of gold. God was very angry and wanted to destroy the people. But Moses asked him not to, and God agreed. In verses 24 to 27, we have the story of their refusing to go into the Promised Land. They gave this name to Canaan, because God promised it to them. The full story is in Numbers chapters 13 and 14. When they heard that there were strong people to fight in Canaan, they hid in their tents. These were the homes made from animal skins that they lived in. They grumbled, or said bad things, about God in their tents. So, God was angry again. He lifted up his hand to show that he really would do what he said. We call a promise made with lifted hands an oath. In verses 28 to 31, we have the story of the Baal of Peor. Baal means 'master' and it is the name of a false god. People thought that he lived in a mountain called Peor. The story is in Numbers chapter 25. The *LORD punished (hurt them for doing wrong) with a *plague. It was an illness, but we do not know what it was. Phinehas killed a man and a woman who were not obeying God's rules. Then the *plague stopped. In verses 32 and 33, we have the story of why Moses did not go into the land of Canaan. It is in Numbers chapter 20: 1 to 13. Because Moses was angry, he spoke too soon. The Story of Psalm 107 The soldiers of Babylon took the *Jews away from their own country. 70 years later, they came home again. Then they wrote this psalm. They were *prisoners in Babylon, (verses 10 to 16). *Prisoners are people who are in a prison or not free. They had done what was wrong, (verses 17 to 22). That is why they were not free. But the *LORD (another name for God) brought them home again, (verses 4 to 9). He redeemed them, or saved them from their enemies. The journey was difficult, (verses 23 to 32). So they must tell the *LORD how good he was, (verses 33 to 43). Babylon was a country east of where the *Jews lived.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 22:15 to 23:9 Isaiah 22: 15 to 25 God pronounces judgement against a corrupt government official named Shebna, who was to be replaced by Eliakim, a godly ruler. **Isaiah 23: 1** Tyre was a Phoenician center for world commerce on the east coast of the Mediterranean Sea just north of the Holy Land . Its citizens were wealthy, but also evil and full of pride. Thus Isaiah

prophesied that God would bring that city down for 70 yrs and then restore it for a time. God's people will once again engage in trade with Tyre.

NEW TESTAMENT †

James 1 : 16 to 27 James 1: 21 lay apart all filthiness. The Word of God, either preached or written cannot effectively take hold of a person's life if he or she is not seperated from moral filth. **James 1 : 21** the engrafted word. Christians begin their new life in Christ by being born again with the Word of truth.

Verses for 15th December 2020

PSALMS 🎵 **Psalm 107: 23 to 43; Psalm 108** The story of Psalm 108. Psalm 108 is parts of 2 psalms put together. The first 5 verses come from Psalm 57 and the last 8 verses come from Psalm 60. Why did this happen? Bible students think that Psalm 108 thanks God for the end of the *exile. The *exile was when many *Jews became *prisoners-of-war in Babylon. A prisoner-of-war is somebody that is in prison in a war. The prison may be a place, not a building. The *Jews were in Babylon for 70 years. Babylon was their prison. At the end of that time the new government in Babylon let the *Jews go back to their own country. Many did and built the city of Jerusalem again. They also built the *temple again. This was the house of God on the hill of Zion in Jerusalem. It may be the *holy place in verse 7. Instead of writing a new psalm, they put together parts of two psalms that David wrote. In Psalm 57, David thanks God for giving him help to fight his enemies. In Psalm 60, those enemies are Babylon and Edom, the two countries that started the *exile. So David really did write Psalm 108! OLD TESTAMENT 🌈 **Isaiah 23:10 to 24:15** **Isaiah 23: 13** land of the Chaldeans. The land of Chaldea was the region of which Babylon was the chief city. Sargon demolished the Chaldean capital. Dur-yakin in 710 - 709 BC and took 90,000 captives. Sennacherib took 208,000 captives from Babylon 703 BC and leveled it in 689 BC. As a result of these two events, the people of Tyre realized that they **would not find comfort or rest while Assyria was in control.** **Isaiah 24: 14** lift up their voice. The righteous who remain faithful to God will rejoice and give Him glory when they see the destruction of this corrupt world system. They will delight in the defeat of sin and evil.

NEW TESTAMENT †

James 2 : 1 respect of persons. The phrase means to show favoritism to people because of their wealth, social standing or position. It is not motivated by genuine love for all. **James 2 : 14** hath faith, and not have works. Saving faith is always a living faith that not only confesses Jesus as Savior, but also obeys Him as Lord.

Verses for 16th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 109: 1 to 5, 21 to 31 & Psalm 110 Psalm 110 Prophetic Psalm-Melchizedek. In Latin, it is known as Dixit Dominus ("The Lord Said"). It is considered both a royal psalm and a messianic psalm. This psalm is a cornerstone in Christian theology, as it is cited as proof of the plurality of the Godhead and Jesus' supremacy as king, priest, and Messiah. The Story of Psalm 110 This is a very old psalm. Today, Bible students are not sure what many of the verses really mean. But it is a very important psalm. Jesus repeated part of it just before his enemies killed him. He was talking to the Pharisees, who were *Jewish leaders. He asked them what they thought about the Christ. Christ is the Greek word for *messiah. *Messiah is the Hebrew word for "anointed". Anointed means "someone with oil poured over them". The oil came from plants called olives. It was not the oil that we use in our cars. The *Jews anointed men when they made them kings. So "Christ" really means a king that someone has anointed. When David wrote the psalm, he was the king. He was anointed, or the *messiah. But he said, "The *LORD said to my *Lord". The two words (*LORD and *Lord) do not mean the same. *LORD is a name for God. It is the name only his servants really use. It is the "*covenant-name". A *covenant is when two people (or groups of people) agree. Here the two are God (the *LORD) and his people (the *Jews). This *LORD (or God) said to David's *Lord, "Sit on the right of me". Who was David's *Lord? This Hebrew word means "master", or "someone with authority". It is another word for God! In Matthew 22:43 we read "Why then did David, in his spirit, call him *Lord?" What does "in his spirit" mean? The spirit is the part of a person that lives after their body dies. It is the part of a person that talks to God. So here, David was talking to God. He was calling him, "*Lord". So everything in the psalm is about the *Lord, or God. It is not about David. This is very important in verse 4. It means that God is "always a *priest, as Melchizedek was". A *priest in the *Old Testament was someone that was God's servant in the *temple (house of God) in Jerusalem. There were many *priests in the *temple. But that was only a picture of what was going to happen! In the *New Testament there was one great *priest. His name was Jesus. But he was not a *priest as the *Jews were *priests. He did not give dead animals to God. He gave himself! And he was not as the *Jewish *priests, he was as Melchizedek!

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 24:16 to 25:12 **Isaiah 24: 16** woe unto me! In contrast to the rejoicing about the coming victory over evil, Isaiah is distressed by all the sin and treachery around him. **Isaiah 25: 6** this mountain. Isaiah prophecies about the future kingdom and salvation that will come after Christ's return to earth. This mountain refers to Mount Zion or Jerusalem. All people indicates the success of the proclamation of the gospel around the world.

NEW TESTAMENT †

James 2:14 to 3:12 James 2: 21 justified by works. Abraham's righteousness came not from the deeds of the law, but through faith and actions working together in love. His willingness to sacrifice Isaac was an expression of faith in the commitment to God. James uses the example of Abraham to correct the belief that faith can exist without commitment to the love of God. The apostle Paul uses the example of Abraham's faith to refute the view that salvation rests on the merit of one's own works rather than on the grace of God. **James 3: 6** the tongue is a fire. James emphasizes our inclination to sin is our speaking. Sinful speaking includes harsh and unkind words, lying, exaggeration, teaching false doctrine, slander, gossiping and boasting. Mature believers keep their tongue under control by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, taking into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. Because of the tendency to sin with the tongue, James exhorts every person to be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

Verses for 17th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalm 111 to 114 Psalm 112 The Story of Psalm 112 Bible students think that Psalm 112 follows Psalm 111 in a special way. Psalm 111 is about a *righteous God. Psalm 112 is about the man that God makes *righteous. Now the word "*righteous" in the Bible is a special word. It means "always doing what is right". Only God is really *righteous. But the people that love and obey God are also *righteous. They are not *righteous because they always do what is right. Sometimes they do what is not right! They are *righteous because God gives them the gift of righteousness. This means that when God looks at them, he sees them as *righteous! Often, their family and friends do not see this, but God does. Righteousness is a gift that God gives to people. He gives it to people who: - are sorry that they have done wrong things; - promise to try, not to do them again; - take the help that God gives to them.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 26: 1 to 21 the song Confident that God will accomplish His redemptive purpose, the saints break out into Praise and prayer. Their song concerns God's triumphant destruction of all evil and the establishment of His kingdom. Isaiah 26: 16 to 19 poured out a prayer Isaiah recalls the times when God chastened Israel and those who remained loyal to God called upon Him in earnest prayer. Although these faithful ones have died, they will rise from the dead and live again on the earth.

NEW TESTAMENT †

James 3:13 to 4:10 James 3:14 bitter envying, refers to the vice of selfish ambition that prompts us to promote our own interests. **James 4: 6** God resisteth the proud. It is emphasized in both New Testament and Old Testament that God hates pride, resists the proud and gives grace to the humble.

Verses for 18th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 115 to 117 Psalm 115: 1 not until us, but unto thy name give glory. We must never seek glory for ourselves, but rather always desire to manifest God's glory and honor His name before the world. We must determine to live in such a way that we will not bring shame or reproach upon the name of Christ or His church. **Psalm 115: 9** trust thou in the Lord. Those who trust in the Lord rather than the things that can be seen receive the Lord as their help and shield. **Psalm 116** I love the Lord. This psalm expresses Thanksgiving to the Lord for deliverance from death and declares the praise of all afflicted believers who have been rescued by the Lord and have been spared death or great calamity. **Psalm 116: 12** What shall I render unto the Lord. Gratitude flows from the hearts of all those who experienced salvation from the Lord, they will express it by their love loyalty, righteous living, thanksgiving and a firm resolve to obey the Lord. **Psalm 116: 15** Precious..is the death of His saints. The Lord carefully watches over the lives of His faithful people. He exercises control over the circumstances of their deaths. **Psalm 117: 1** all ye nations. Paul quotes this verse in Romans 15: 11 to prove that the Old Testament anticipated God's offer of salvation to people of all nations.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 27: 1 to 13 Isaiah 27: 2 to 6 A vineyard. This prophetic song emphasizes God's desire to make Israel a fruitful vineyard. In the kingdom age, Israel will influence the whole earth for God and for the righteous.

NEW TESTAMENT †

James 4:11 to 5:6 James 4: 11 Speak not evil one of another. A disciplined and restrained tongue that consciously controls what one says at all times is essential to spiritual victory and maturity. **James 4: 15** If the Lord will. In making goals and plans for the future, believers must enquire of God concerning His will and sincerely desire that will. **James 4: 16** boasting. For those who set goals and succeed in meeting them, the temptation is to boast. Boasting is based on the false assumption that whatever we accomplished, we did it as a result of our own initiative and abilities, ignoring the role of God and others in our success. **James 5: 1** ye rich men, weep and howl. The Bible does not teach that all rich people are ungodly, nevertheless, what James is describing is characteristic of many rich people. The exceptions are the rich people who are not possessed by their wealth and use it instead to advance the gospel and to help those in need .

Verses for 19th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 118 & 119 : 1 to 24 Psalm 118 : 21 to 24 Psalm 118 verses 21 to 24 again tell us what God has done. He saved his people, (verse 21). Like the stone that the builders (men who were building) threw away, Israel was now important, (verse 22). The *LORD did something *wonderful, or "very great", (verse 23). He did it on "this day", (verse 24). "This day" now means the day when people remember what God did. For *Jews it is one of their *feasts, Passover, Pentecost or Tree Houses. For Christians, it is Sunday because Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday. **Psalm 119** There are also 8 special words in the psalm. To the *Jews these 8 words were important. They described what God told them to do. They are also important for Christians, because they tell them the ways that God speaks to them. The most important way is through the Bible. Christians call the Bible 'The Word of God'. Psalm 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible. You will probably find that you can study it more easily in groups of 8 verses.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 28: 1 to 13 Isaiah 28 : 7 erred through wine. Isaiah describes Israel's iniquity in terms of the despicable and shameful conduct resulting from their use of intoxicating wine. **Isaiah 28 : 11** stammering lips and another tongue. If the Israelites refused to hear Isaiah, God would force them to listen through the military might of a foreign power. **Isaiah 28 : 13** be broken, and snared. Because they rejected the prophet's word, God would now use the message to harden them, thus ensuring their judgement and capture.

NEW TESTAMENT †

James 5: 7 to 20 James 5: 11 the patience of Job. The word translated patience is better rendered endurance or perseverance. It indicates endurance in whatever trials we may face without losing our faith in God. **James 5: 15** prayer of faith shall save the sick. We may deal with physical, mental or emotional illness by asking for the prayers of the elders of the church. Pastors and elders of the church are to pray the prayer of faith and to anoint them with oil. **James 5: 16** prayer of a righteous man availeth much. The prayers of the righteous draw them near to God open the way to a Spirit filled life, build them up spiritually, give them insight into Christ's provision for them.

Verses for 21st December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 119: 73 to 120 Here are the 8 special words: 1. word (dabar in Hebrew): it means things like the 10 commandments in Exodus chapter 20. These were the 10 things that God told his people to do or not to do. 2. saying (imrah): this is another way to say word. 3. statutes (chuqqim): these are the rules that the *Jews made early in their history. We translate it *laws in Psalm 119. "History" means the story of what happened. 4. judgments (mishpatim): a later word for statutes. We translate it "rules" in Psalm 119. 5. law (torah): this means the first 5 books of the Bible. Later it included other books like Isaiah and Jeremiah. We translate it "*teaching" in Psalm 119. 6. *commands (mitsvat): what someone with authority tells you to do. 7. precepts (piqqudim): these give us help when we want to know what to do. We translate it "*guidelines" in Psalm 119. 8. testimonies (eduth): these are the things that God tells us to do as *Jews or Christians. We translate it "*instructions" in Psalm 119. There are other important words in Psalm 119. They include way and path; *heart and follow. Way and path both mean the same thing in the psalm. They mean: what we do in our lives. Our way can be good or bad. If we obey Psalm 119, our way will be good. Jesus said, "I am the way" (John 14:6). If we obey Jesus, our way will be good. In Acts 9:2, "in the way" is another name for "being a Christian". *heart does not mean the same thing each time it comes: - "a clean *heart" means that God has forgiven us - "in my *heart" means "in my mind" - "all my / their *heart" means "all that I/they can do in the body or mind" -Your *heart in the psalms often means all of you! When God *forgives us, he gives our *sin to Jesus. He takes it away. Our *sin is the bad things that we do. Follow in verses 4, 14, 15, 56, 63, 87, 100, 133, 168 and 173 means "obey".

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 28: 14 to 29 **Isaiah 28: 16** I lay in Zion for a foundation stone. The stone is the Lord Himself, faith in Him alone provided hope for salvation. The New Testament declares that the ultimate fulfillment of this verse is found in Jesus Christ. With Christ as the foundation, God is building new people, whose commitment must be to righteousness and justice. **Isaiah 28: 23 to 29** hear my voice. God would act in such a way that he would bring forth a righteous remnant from the crucible of judgement.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Luke 1: 1 to 25 **Luke 1: 15** Filled with the Holy Ghost. Notice the outcome of John's Spirit filled life and ministry. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, his preaching convicts people of their sins, brings them to repentance and turns them back to God.

Verses for 22nd December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 119: 121 to 160 The Story of Psalm 119. Solomon was king of Israel nearly 1000 years Before Christ came to the earth (B.C.). Solomon built the house of God that was in Jerusalem. We call it "the *temple". About 600 B.C. a nation called Babylon fought the *Jews. A nation is a country with a government. Babylon was 800 kilometres east of Jerusalem. The Babylonians won the fight and they took many *Jews to Babylon. We call this "the *exile". The Babylonians also destroyed the *temple. After the *exile many *Jews went back to their own country. About 500 B.C. they built the *temple again. Then they made the Book of Psalms to sing in the new *temple. Some were old psalms by David, Moses and Isaiah. Other psalms were new like Psalm 1. Psalm 119 was probably one of these new psalms. It is a very special psalm. There are 176 verses (or parts) in it. Some people think that 176 different people wrote one verse each. Other people think that Ezra wrote all Psalm 119. Ezra was a *Jewish leader about 450 B.C.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 29: 1 to 14 **Isaiah 29: 1 to 4** Woe to Ariel. Ariel (meaning "lion of God") is a symbolic name for Jerusalem. Although the inhabitants of Jerusalem felt secure and continued their religious festivals as usual, God would bring devastating judgement upon them because of their sin. When God's people do not recognize their spiritual poverty and their need to cry out to Him in repentance and prayer. He eventually has to remove them from their place in His Kingdom.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Luke 1: 26 to 45 **Luke 1: 38** according to thy word . Mary submitted herself to the will of God and trusted this message. She willingly accepted the honor and the reproach that being the mother of the holy child will bring.

Verses for 23rd December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 120 to 125 The Story of Psalms 120 to 134 These 15 psalms are called "Songs of Ascent" in many Bibles. "Ascent" means "going up". This translation calls it "climbing". But what are we climbing? Bible students give us 4 answers: One line in the psalm "climbs" on the line in front of it. This means that it repeats the line. Read the start of Psalm 124 for an example. There were 15 steps from where the women stood to where the men stood outside the *temple. The *temple was God's house in Jerusalem. As the men climbed the steps, they sang one psalm on each step. This is why most of the psalms for climbing are short. Jerusalem was on the top of a hill called "Zion". The *Jews often went to Jerusalem to worship God at the *temple. "Worship" means "Tell God how *wonderful that he is. And tell him that you love him". The *Jews sang these psalms for climbing as they went up to Jerusalem. The Story of Psalm 121 and what it means The story of Psalm 121 is in the note on Psalm 120. Read it there. If you travelled from home to Jerusalem, you would go through dangerous places. You would need someone to *protect you. "**Protect you" means "stop somebody hurting you". There was no help in the hills (verse 1). Instead, there was danger! People that robbed you hid in the hills. But there was someone to send help: the *LORD! (See verses 2 to 7.) He made the *heaven (the sky and the stars) and the earth. Also, he would *protect you and be the one that *guards you. He never sleeps, so he never stops *guarding you (verses 3 and 4). He *guards you from dangers that you know about. He *guards you from dangers that you do not know about, (verse 7). He *guards you as you go out and on your way home, (verse 8). He is always there to give you help. "**Guard you" means "stop people hurting you". "Not let your foot slip" (verse 3) means "not let you fall". "Certain" is another word for "sure". *LORD is a special name for God. It is his *covenant name. A *covenant is when two or more people agree together. God agreed to *protect his people if they obeyed him. "**Protect you" means "stop people hurting you".

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 29:15 to 30:7 **Isaiah 29: 17 to 24** a fruitful field. Isaiah's prophecies of judgement are never without hope, for they characteristically include the theme of Israel's restoration. These verses envision the last days of this age when the humble and poor of Israel will turn to God and the wicked will be destroyed. Israel's full restoration will occur shortly before Christ's return to earth to reign. God's people will receive full redemption at His second coming.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Luke 1:47 God as Saviour. In these words Mary recognizes her own need of salvation. She was a sinner who needed Christ as Savior. The idea that Mary herself was immaculately conceived and lived without sin is nowhere taught in Scriptures.

Verses for 24th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 126 to 131 The story of Psalm 127. Psalm 127 tells people to remember that it was God who saved their city from enemies. God had given them everything that was valuable to them: *safety, houses, food, children and *peace. It was God who let them work hard to build houses. It was God who let them do the other things in the psalm. ,The story of Psalm 128 A family tree is a list of all the people in your family: your grandparents, your parents, your husband or wife, your children and your grandchildren. Also people that lived before and after them all. People who are *in awe of the *LORD will see part of their family tree! This psalm teaches us that. They will live at *peace in Jerusalem. For many Christians, Jerusalem means where they live. Psalm 87 and some of Paul's letters tell us that the Jerusalem on the earth is a picture of the Jerusalem in heaven. Heaven is the home of God. We do not know where it is.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 30: 8 to 26 **Isaiah 30: 10** speak to us smooth things. The people could not bear to hear prophetic words that condemned their sinful lifestyle. Paul states that in the last days a similar state of mind will prevail among some people. **Isaiah 30 : 18 to 26** that he may be gracious to His people and to bless all who long for Him. He will pour out these blessings on the believing remnant when He restores them to a place of favor alongside the Messiah.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Luke 1: 67 to 80 **Luke 1: 67** filled with the Holy Ghost. Luke records how the Holy Spirit empowered many of the important people associated with the birth of Christ. After Christ's ascension, the way was opened for all believers to be filled with the Holy Spirit. **Luke 1: 75** holiness and righteousness. The ultimate aim of our redemption is to be delivered from sin. In order to serve God in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life. Every child of God must aim at a life of holiness and righteousness in an evil world.

Verses for 26th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 136 to 138 The Story of Psalm 136. In this psalm, one group says something and another group answers. Perhaps it was the psalm they used in Ezra 3:11. There it says, "They answered each other, *praising and thanking the *LORD. They said, 'He is good. His kind love will always continue to Israel.'" The *Jews called this psalm "the great hallel". Other hallels are Psalms 113 to 118 and 135. They are psalms that *praise the *LORD, (or tell the *LORD that he is really great). But this psalm is different from the other psalms. One group of people tell part of the story of what God has done. Then the other people repeat a chorus (some words that are the same each time). The chorus says, "Because his kind love will always continue". "Kind love" is a very special Bible word. The *Jews wrote the psalms in their own language, Hebrew. The Hebrew word we translated "kind love" is "hesed". Really, there is no English word that can translate "hesed". "Kind love" is the best we can do. It comes from the old English Bible that translated it "lovingkindness". People have written a lot about "hesed". But we must remember that it means at least two things: God does not have to love us but he still loves us; God will always love us. Look again at the psalm. Really, verses 1 to 3 should come before every verse! That is why we put "Thank the *LORD because" before each part of the psalm. It is there to help us to remember this.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 32: 1 to 20 **Isaiah 32: 1 to 8** a king shall reign in righteousness. This prophecy foresees the worldwide reign of Christ, characterized by righteousness and by people who live in accordance with the Word of God. **Isaiah 32: 15 to 20** Until the spirit be poured upon us. Isaiah returns to the theme of the righteous reign of the king. In the present age the blessings of redemption comes to us through Spirit, who has been poured out upon believers. Yet those outpouring is only partial, we wait and pray for the fullness of redemption and the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the end of history.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Luke 2 : 15 to 25 **Luke 2: 25** waiting for the consolation. In a time of lukewarm spiritual conditions, righteous Simeon was devoted to God and filled with Holy Spirit, waiting in faith , patience and great longing for the coming of Messiah. Likewise at end times there will always be faithful Simeons. The faithful will be like the loyal slave who keeps watch through the long dark night waiting for the return of his master.

Verses for 28th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 142 to 144 The Story of Psalm 142 This psalm is a "maskil". There are 13 psalms called maskils. They are 32, 42, 44, 45, 52 to 55, 74, 78, 88, 89 and 142. Bible students think that "maskil" means: - either a psalm with something special to teach, like 32 and 78, or - a psalm that the *psalmist wrote in a very clever way. (The *psalmist is the person who wrote the psalms.) David wrote this maskil in a cave. It is a *prayer to the *LORD. We say *prayers when we talk to God. David was in trouble (or "had trouble".) His enemies were trying to catch him. He does not say who these enemies were. There are two stories about David hiding in a cave. A cave is a hole in the side of a hill. One story is in 1 Samuel 22, the other is in 1 Samuel 24. David feels safe in the cave, but he does not want to stay in it. It seems as if the cave is a prison. But there are no friends to give him help. He writes "Nobody cares about me". This means "Nobody loves me enough to give me help". But the *LORD God can send him help. This psalm prays for that help.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 33: 1 to 24 **Isaiah 33: 2 to 9** O Lord , be gracious unto us. This is the prayer of the righteous remnant for deliverance from the hand of the enemy. **Isaiah 33: 17 to 24** the King. This is probably a prophecy concerning God's future kingdom on earth therefore, the reigning king will be the Messiah---Jesus Christ.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Luke 2: 26 to 40 **Luke 2: 36 and 37** Anna... served God. Anna was a prophet who earnestly hoped for the coming of Christ. She remained a widow for many years, never remarrying , but devoting herself to the Lord with fastings and prayers night and day. The Bible teaches that the unmarried state can be a greater blessing than the married. Paul states that the unmarried have greater opportunity to be concerned about the things of the Lord how to please Him and give Him undistracted devotion . **Luke 2: 40** the child grew. As a true human child, Jesus experienced the process of physical and spiritual development. He kept increasing in wisdom as the grace of God was upon Him. He was perfect in His human nature, developing perfectly as God desired.

Verses for 29th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 145 and 146 The Story of Psalm 145 We do not know when David wrote this psalm. Some Bible students think that Nehemiah wrote it 500 years after David died, using David's notes. It is an acrostic. This means that verse 1 begins with A, verse 2 with B, and so on. We have used English letters. As there are 22 letters in the Hebrew alphabet, we have left out 4 English letters. What Psalm 145 means Because it is an acrostic, some of the verses are difficult to understand. It may give help if you change the words round like this in these verses: 1. I will always *praise you 2. I will say "**bless you" every day 4. From father down to son 6. The things that you have done are famous 7. Everybody remembers your good things 8. The *LORD is full of *grace and *mercy (leave out "how") 9. The *LORD is kind to everybody (leave out "it is" and "that is") 10. Everything that you have made will *praise you (leave out "joining together") 11. You rule the "*kingdom of *glory" (leave out "is where") 14. The *LORD will bring everybody out of trouble 16. Leave out "really" 17. Leave out "so" 19. Leave out "very" 20. The *LORD will destroy *wicked people You can see from this that some words are there just to make the acrostic! They are not very important. They help in this special use of words that we call "poetry".

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 34:1 to 35:10 **Isaiah 34: 1 to 7** all nationsutterly destroyed. These verses depict the terrible judgement to fall on all nations at the end time. They emphasize God's wrath against a sin and rebellion, this judgement will involve disturbances in heavens and is linked with Christ's return to set up His kingdom on earth. At the present, nations may ridicule and reject God's way, but at a time known only to God, great tribulation and judgement will shake the nations. **Isaiah 35: 1** The wilderness...shall be glad. Whereas the preceding chapter described God's judgement, this prophetic chapter foresees a time when the whole landscape is changing from judgement and spiritual wilderness to a time of great salvation and life. This great change, described in terms of wilderness blossoming with life and beauty and joy, occurs as a result of the visible manifestation of God's majestic excellency and glory in the midst of His people. In connection with His revelation of God's glory. **Isaiah 35: 5 and 6** the eyes of the blind shall be opened. Jesus Christ refers to these verses as evidence of His Messiahship. When the Church of Jesus Christ is truly empowered by the Holy Spirit to do the "greater works" Isaiah 35: 8 to 10 The way of holiness Whenever the Spirit is poured out from on high, resulting in a powerful revelation of God's glory and excellency, the way of holiness will become clear, all the redeemed will walk in transparency and spiritual safety.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Luke 2: 41 to 52 Matthew 1: 1 to 6 Luke 2: 52 Jesus increased in wisdom. Approximately 18 years of Jesus life passed without comment. What was His life during those years? We learn that He grew in a large family, that His father was a carpenter and that Jesus learned the trade. The trade included household repairs, furniture making and construction of agricultural implements such as plows and yoked. During all these years He grew and developed both physically and spiritually according to the will of God, fully conscious that God was His Father.

Verses for 30th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 147 and 148 The Story of Psalm 147. This psalm tells us something about God's love and his power. Here, power does not only mean that he rules everything. It also means that he is very, very strong. It is the second of the 5 *Hallelujah Psalms, 146 to 150. "*Hallelujah" means "*praise the *LORD". This means "tell the *LORD that he is very great". In verse 1, "*praises" are words that say how great somebody is. "*LORD" is the *covenant name for God. A *covenant is when two people (or groups of people) agree. Here, God agrees to love and give help to his people. His people agree to love and obey God. In verse 5 is another word, "*Lord". This is not the same Hebrew word as "*LORD". Hebrew is the language that the *Jews spoke. They wrote the psalms in Hebrew. "*Lord" translates a Hebrew word that means "master" or "someone with authority". There are three parts in this psalm: - verses 1 to 6: God's power in Israel and Babylon and in the skies above; - verses 7 to 11: God's power on the earth with plants and animals; - verses 12 to 20: God's power in giving his people what they need.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 36: 1 to 22 **Isaiah 36: 1** king Hezekiah. Isaiah moves from prophecy to the history of king Hezekiah. Hezekiah was a godly king of Judah who trusted in the Lord and served Him. The fourteenth year of His reign was 701 B.C. when Sennacherib, king of Assyria, invaded Judah with the intention of capturing Jerusalem. **Isaiah 36: 4 to 10** Rabshakeh said. The field commander of Sennacherib's army attempted to undermine the people's confidence in the Lord through intimidation, lies and arguments that the God of Judah was not strong enough to deliver them. Isaiah 36: 20 deliver Jerusalem out of my hand? Rabshakeh mockingly suggested that the God of Judah was not powerful enough to deliver Jerusalem from his army. He implied that it would take a miracle and that this was no time to expect such a thing. Satan still uses such tactics on God's children. However God did work a miracle for Judah and defeated Rabshakeh and his army.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 1: 7 to 17 Matthew 1: 16 Mary ...Jesus. The virgin birth of Jesus is safeguarded in the genealogy. Notice the word begat is used of all the names down to Joseph, but then the statement is altered, it is not said that Joseph begat Jesus, but rather that Joseph was the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus.

Verses for 30th December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 147 and 148

The Story of Psalm 147. This psalm tells us something about God's love and his power. Here, power does not only mean that he rules everything. It also means that he is very, very strong. It is the second of the 5 *Hallelujah Psalms, 146 to 150. "*Hallelujah" means "*praise the *LORD". This means "tell the *LORD that he is very great". In verse 1, "*praises" are words that say how great somebody is. "*LORD" is the *covenant name for God. A *covenant is when two people (or groups of people) agree. Here, God agrees to love and give help to his people. His people agree to love and obey God. In verse 5 is another word, "*Lord". This is not the same Hebrew word as "*LORD". Hebrew is the language that the *Jews spoke. They wrote the psalms in Hebrew. "*Lord" translates a Hebrew word that means "master" or "someone with authority". There are three parts in this psalm: - verses 1 to 6: God's power in Israel and Babylon and in the skies above; - verses 7 to 11: God's power on the earth with plants and animals; - verses 12 to 20: God's power in giving his people what they need.

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Matthew 1: 7 to 17 Matthew 1: 16 Mary ...Jesus. The virgin birth of Jesus is safeguarded in the genealogy. Notice the word begat is used of all the names down to Joseph, but then the statement is altered, it is not said that Joseph begat Jesus, but rather that Joseph was the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus.

Verses for 31st December 2020

PSALMS

Psalms 149 & 150 The Story of Psalm 150. Christians and *Jews say that this is a very special psalm. Someone wrote it to finish the Book of Psalms. This was perhaps after the *exile. The *exile was 600 years before Jesus came to the earth. Babylon was a country 800 kilometres east of Jerusalem. Today we call it Iraq. The army of Babylon destroyed Jerusalem. They also destroyed the *temple in Jerusalem. The *temple was God's house in Jerusalem. The army of Babylon took many *Jews to Babylon. They made them live there. This was the *exile. The *Jews went back to their own land 70 years later. They built Jerusalem and the *temple again. Then the *Jews made the Book of Psalms. It was to sing in the new *temple. They used psalms by Moses, by David, by Isaiah, by the sons of Korah and by many other people. But Bible students think that they wrote two new psalms for their book. They were Psalm 1 and Psalm 150. Maybe they wrote other psalms also, perhaps Psalms 146 to 149. What Psalm 150 means-: The *Jews spoke Hebrew and wrote their psalms in Hebrew. The word hallelu is in every verse of this psalm in the Hebrew Bible. We usually translate it ""praise", or "tell someone that they are great". But here we translated it "you are the best". Nobody is better than God. *LORD is another name for God. It is his *covenant name. A *covenant is when two people, or groups of people, agree. Here, God agreed to love and send help to his people. His people agreed to love and obey God. Many Christians still use the Hebrew word *hallelujah. This means: Hallel u jah tell someone that they are great. *PRAISE THE *LORD all of YOU, a name for God that we translate ""LORD"

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 37: 1 to 26 **Isaiah 37: 1** Hezekiah...went into the house of the Lord. Rabshakeh's intimidation and accusations were unworthy of a response, but they were worthy of earnest intercession. Hezekiah, a man of God , turned to God in humble and contrite prayer and availed himself of God's directive through the mouth of Isaiah the prophet. In times of trouble, the best thing we can do is seek God's face and ask Him to speak to us through His written Word or through a prophetic message.

NEW TESTAMENT †

Matthew 1:18 to 2:6 **Matthew 2: 1** wise men. These men were probably members of a learned religious class from the region now called Iran. They specialized in astrology, medicine and natural sciences. Their visit occurred when Jesus was between 40 days and 2 years old.