

Adult
Sabbath School
Bible Study Guide
Apr | May | Jun 2025

Name

‘That They Might Know Thee’



**STUDENT'S PERSONAL
STUDY NOTES**

OVERVIEW

General Introduction for the 2nd Quarter, 2025

“Said the Saviour: *“This is life eternal, that they might know You the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent.”* [John 17:3] And God declared by the prophet: *“Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am The LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, said The LORD.”* [Jeremiah 9:23]

No man, without divine aid, can attain to this knowledge of God. The apostle says that *“the world by wisdom knew not God.”* [1 Corinthians 1:21] Christ *“was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not.”* [John 1:10] Jesus declared to His disciples: *“No man knows The Son, but The Father; neither knows any man The Father, save The Son, and He to whomsoever The Son will reveal Him.”* [Matthew 11:27] In that last prayer for His followers, before entering the shadows of Gethsemane, the Saviour lifted His eyes to heaven, and in pity for the ignorance of fallen men He said: *“O righteous Father, the world has not known You: but I have known You, and these have known that You have sent Me.”* [John 17:25] *“I have manifested Your name to the men which You gave Me out of the world: Yours they were, and You gave them to Me; and they have kept Your word.”* [John 17:6]...

It was by falsifying the character of God and exciting distrust of Him that Satan tempted Eve to transgress. By sin the minds of our first parents were darkened, their natures were degraded, and their conceptions of God were moulded by their own narrowness and selfishness. And as men became bolder in sin, the knowledge and the love of God faded from their minds and hearts. *“Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.”* [Romans 1:21]...

Christ *descended* to reveal God to the world as a God of love, full of mercy, tenderness, and compassion. The thick darkness with which Satan had endeavoured to enshroud the throne of Deity was swept away by the world's Redeemer, and The Father was again manifest to men as The Light of Life.—*Testimonies to the Church, Vol. 5, page 737 - 738.*

NOTATIONS

Please Note:

In addition to the writings of Ellen White, the works of a number of other authors have been used in the notes for some of these lessons. While these notes were chosen by the compiler of these lessons, and therefore reflect his own views, they should be seen as providing topics for discussion and further study, rather than authoritative.

All Scripture is taken from The King James Version [KJV] of The Bible unless otherwise stated.

This year’s Devotional:

“In Heavenly Places” by E.G. White

Heaven’s Hotline:

The daily prayer request, “Heaven’s Hotline,” at the end of each lesson, is purely optional to complete and is intended to aid one in their prayer life with The LORD, along with the application of the lesson materials into one’s daily life. It is encouraged that you ponder the lesson during, as well as on completion, and while you wait upon The LORD, compose a small prayer request. It is not essential that one reads this prayer out loud to the class, yet it is encouraged that one do so in a small prayer group. It is vital that we keep our prayer life in the foreground as this is the primary connection that we have with The LORD.

Extra Scripture:

As you study the lesson materials, this is a place to write or paste any extra Scripture verses that are used or added into your answers.

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LESSON 1

“THE KING, ETERNAL, IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE”

March 29 — April 4

📖 MEMORY VERSE : *“Look to Me, and be you saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.” [Isaiah 45: 22]*

? STUDY HELP : ✓ Ministry of Healing, pages 409 – 426

🗨 INTRODUCTION : *“The secret things belong to The LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.” [Deuteronomy 29:29] The revelation of Himself that God has given in His word is for our study. This we may seek to understand. But beyond this we are not to penetrate. The highest intellect may tax itself until it is wearied out in conjectures regarding the nature of God; but the effort will be fruitless. This problem has not been given us to solve. No human mind can comprehend God. Let not finite man attempt to interpret Him. Let none indulge in speculation regarding His nature. Here silence is eloquence. The Omniscient One is above discussion.” —Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 8, page 279.*

Sabbath – March 29th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Genesis 1:1; Deuteronomy 29:29; John 1:1–3;

1. With what sublime words does the Bible begin?

➤ Genesis 1:1 —

➤ John 1:1–3 —

NOTE : “He who studies most deeply into the mysteries of nature will realise most fully his own ignorance and weakness. He will realise that there are depths and heights which he cannot reach, secrets which he cannot penetrate, vast fields of truth lying before him unentered. He will be ready to say, with Newton, “I seem to myself to have been like a child on the seashore finding pebbles and shells, while the great ocean of truth lay undiscovered before me.” The deepest students of science are constrained to recognise in nature the working of infinite power. But to man's unaided reason, nature's teaching cannot but be contradictory and disappointing. Only in the light of revelation can it be read aright. “Through faith we understand.” Hebrews 11:3. “In the beginning God.” Genesis 1:1.... “The invisible things of Him since the creation of the world are . . . perceived through the things that are made, even His everlasting power and divinity. Romans 1:20, R.V. But their testimony can be understood only through the aid of the divine Teacher. “What man knows the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knows no man, but the Spirit of God.” 1 Corinthians 2:11. “When He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth.” John 16:13. Only by the aid of that Spirit who in the beginning “was brooding upon the face of the waters;” of that Word by whom “all things were made;” of that “true Light, which lights every man that cometh into the world,” can the testimony of science be rightly interpreted. Only by their guidance can its deepest truths be

discerned. Only under the direction of the Omniscient One shall we, in the study of His works, be enabled to think His thoughts after Him.”—*Education, pages 133–134.*

2. Heaven’s Hotline



Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, March 29th, 2025

[Genesis 1:1]

↪ ¹ In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

[Deuteronomy 29:29]

↪ ²⁹ The secret *things belong* unto the LORD our God: but those *things which are* revealed *belong* unto us and to our children for ever, that *we* may do all the words of this law.

[John 1:1-3]

↪ ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
² The same was in the beginning with God.
³ All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

The Ministry of Healing

Chapter 35, pp. 409-426

“A True Knowledge of God”

Like our Saviour, we are in this world to do service for God. We are here to become like God in character, and by a life of service to reveal Him to the world. In order to be co-workers with God, in order to become like Him and to reveal His character, we must know Him aright. We must know Him as He reveals Himself.

A knowledge of God is the foundation of all true education and of all true service. It is the only real safeguard against temptation. It is this alone that can make us like God in character.

This is the knowledge needed by all who are working for the uplifting of their fellow men. Transformation of character, purity of life, efficiency in service, adherence to correct principles, all depend upon a right knowledge of God. This knowledge is the essential preparation both for this life and for the life to come.

"The knowledge of the Holy is understanding." Proverbs 9:10.

Through a knowledge of Him are given unto us "all things that pertain unto life and godliness." 2 Peter 1:3.

"This is life eternal," said Jesus, "that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent." John 17:3.

"Thus said the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Neither let the mighty man glory in his might, Let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the Lord which exercise loving-kindness, Judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: For in these things I delight, said the Lord." Jeremiah 9:23, 24.

We need to study the revelations of Himself that God has given. "Acquaint now thyself with Him, And be at peace: Thereby good shall come unto thee. Receive, I pray thee, the law from His mouth, And lay up His words in thy heart. . . . And the Almighty will be thy treasure. . . ."Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Almighty, And shalt lift up thy face unto God. Thou shalt make thy prayer unto Him, And He will hear thee; And thou shalt pay thy vows. Thou shalt also decree a thing, And it shall be established unto thee; And light shall shine upon thy ways. When they cast thee down, thou shalt say, There is lifting up; And the humble person He will save." Job 22:21-29, A.R.V.

"The invisible things of Him since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, even His everlasting power and divinity." Romans 1:20, A.R.V.

The things of nature that we now behold give us but a faint conception of Eden's glory. Sin has marred earth's beauty; on all things may be seen traces of the work of evil. Yet much that is beautiful remains. Nature testifies that One infinite in power, great in goodness, mercy, and love, created the earth, and filled it with life and gladness. Even in their blighted state, all things reveal the handiwork of the great Master Artist. Wherever we turn, we may hear the voice of God, and see evidences of His goodness.

From the solemn roll of the deep-toned thunder and old ocean's ceaseless roar, to the glad songs that make the forests vocal with melody, nature's ten thousand voices speak His praise. In earth and sea and sky, with their marvellous tint and colour, varying in gorgeous contrast or blended in harmony, we behold His glory. The everlasting hills tell us of His power. The trees that wave their green banners in the sunlight, and the flowers in their delicate beauty, point to their Creator. The living green that carpets the brown earth tells of God's care for the humblest of His creatures. The caves of the sea and the depths of the earth reveal His treasures. He who placed the pearls in the ocean and the amethyst and chrysolite among the rocks, is a lover of the beautiful. The sun rising in the heavens is a representative of Him who is the life and light of all that He has made. All the brightness and beauty that adorn the earth and light up the heavens, speak of God.

"His glory covered the heavens." "The earth is full of Thy riches." "Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night shows knowledge. There is no speech nor language, Without these their voice is heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world." Habakkuk 3:3; Psalm 104:24; 19:2-4, margin.

All things tell of His tender, fatherly care and of His desire to make His children happy.

The mighty power that works through all nature and sustains all things is not, as some men of science represent, merely an all-pervading principle, an actuating energy. God is a Spirit; yet He is a personal Being; for so He has revealed Himself: "The Lord is the true God, He is the living God, and an everlasting King: . . . The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth,

Even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens." "The portion of Jacob is not like them: For He is the former of all things." "He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, And has stretched out the heavens by His discretion." Jeremiah 10:10, 11, 16, 12.

Nature Is Not God

God's handiwork in nature is not God Himself in nature. The things of nature are an expression of God's character and power; but we are not to regard nature as God. The artistic skill of human beings produces very beautiful workmanship, things that delight the eye, and these things reveal to us something of the thought of the designer; but the thing made is not the maker. It is not the work, but the workman, that is counted worthy of honour. So while nature is an expression of God's thought, it is not nature, but the God of nature, that is to be exalted.

"Let us worship and bow down: Let us kneel before the Lord." "In His hand are the deep places of the earth; The heights of the mountains are His also. The sea is His, and He made it; And His hands formed the dry land." Psalm 95:6; 95:4, 5, A.R.V.

"Seek Him that makes the Pleiades and Orion, And turneth the shadow of death into the morning, And makes the day dark with night;" "He that forms the mountains, and creates the wind, And declares unto man what is His thought;" "He that builds His spheres in the heaven, And has founded His arch [Noyes's translation] in the earth;" "He that calls for the waters of the sea, And pours them out upon the face of the earth; Jehovah is His name." Amos 5:8, A.R.V.; 4:13, A.R.V.; 9:6, margin; 9:6, A.R.V.

The Creation of the Earth

The work of creation cannot be explained by science. What science can explain the mystery of life?

"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." Hebrews 11:3.

"I form the light, and create darkness: . . . I the Lord do all these things. . . . I have made the earth, And created man upon it: I, even My hands, have stretched out the heavens, And all their host have I commanded." "When I call unto them, they stand up together." Isaiah 45:7-12; 48:13.

In the creation of the earth, God was not indebted to pre-existing matter. "He spake, and it was; . . . He commanded, and it stood fast." Psalm 33:9. All things, material or spiritual, stood up before the Lord Jehovah at His voice and were created for His own purpose. The heavens and all the host of them, the earth and all things therein, came into existence by the breath of His mouth.

In the creation of man was manifest the agency of a personal God. When God had made man in His image, the human form was perfect in all its arrangements, but it was without life. Then a personal, self-existing God breathed into that form the breath of life, and man became a living, intelligent being. All parts of the human organism were set in action. The heart, the arteries, the veins, the tongue, the hands, the feet, the senses, the faculties of the mind, all began their work, and all were placed under law. Man became a living soul. Through Christ the Word, a personal God created man and endowed him with intelligence and power.

Our substance was not hid from Him when we were made in secret; His eyes saw our substance, yet being imperfect, and in His book all our members were written when as yet there were none of them.

Above all lower orders of being, God designed that man, the crowning work of His creation, should express His thought and reveal His glory. But man is not to exalt himself as God.

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord. . . . Serve the Lord with gladness: Come before His presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord He is God: It is He that has made us, and His we are; We are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise: Be thankful unto Him, and bless His name." "Exalt the Lord our God, And worship at His holy hill; For the Lord our God is holy." Psalm 100:1-4, margin; 99:9.

God is constantly employed in upholding and using as His servants the things that He has made. He works through the laws of nature, using them as His instruments. They are not self-acting. Nature in her work testifies of the intelligent presence and active agency of a Being who moves in all things according to His will.

"Forever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven. Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: Thou hast established the earth, and it abides. They continue this day according to Thine ordinances: For all are Thy servants." "Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that did He In heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places." "He commanded, and they were created. He has also established them for ever and ever: He has made a decree which shall not pass." Psalm 119:89-91; 135:6; 148:5, 6.

It is not by inherent power that year by year the earth yields its bounties and continues its march around the sun. The hand of the Infinite One is perpetually at work guiding this planet. It is God's power continually exercised that keeps the earth in position in its rotation. It is God who causes the sun to rise in the heavens. He opens the windows of heaven and gives rain.

"He giveth snow like wool: He scatters the hoarfrost like ashes." "When He utters His voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens, And He causes the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightnings with rain, And brings forth the wind out of His treasures." Psalm 147:16; Jeremiah 10:13.

It is by His power that vegetation is caused to flourish, that every leaf appears, every flower blooms, every fruit develops.

The mechanism of the human body cannot be fully understood; it presents mysteries that baffle the most intelligent. It is not as the result of a mechanism, which, once set in motion, continues its work, that the pulse beats and breath follows breath. In God we live and move and have our being. The beating heart, the throbbing pulse, every nerve and muscle in the living organism, is kept in order and activity by the power of an ever-present God.

The Bible shows us God in His high and holy place, not in a state of inactivity, not in silence and solitude, but surrounded by ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of holy beings, all waiting to do His will. Through these messengers He is in active communication with every part of His dominion. By His Spirit He is everywhere present. Through the agency of His Spirit and His angels He ministers to the children of men.

Above the distractions of the earth He sits enthroned; all things are open to His divine survey; and from His great and calm eternity He orders that which His providence sees best.

"The way of man is not in himself: It is not in man that walks to direct his steps." "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart. . . . In all thy ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct thy paths." "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." "How precious is Thy loving-kindness, O God! . . . The children of men take refuge under the shadow of Thy wings." "Happy is he that has the God of Jacob for his help, Whose hope is in the Lord his God." "The earth, O Jehovah, is full of Thy loving-kindness." Thou loves "righteousness and justice." Thou "art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, And of them that are afar off upon the sea: Who by His strength sets fast the mountains, Being girded about with might; Who stills the roaring of the seas, . . . And the tumult of the peoples."

"Thou makes the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice." "Thou crowns the year with Thy goodness; And Thy paths drop fatness."

"The Lord upholds all that fall, And raises up all those that be bowed down. The eyes of all wait upon Thee; And Thou gives them their meat in due season. Thou opens Thine hand, And satisfies the desire of every living

thing." Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 3:5, 6; Psalm 33:18, 19; 36:7, A.R.V.; 146:5; 119:64, A.R.V.; 33:5, A.R.V.; 65:5-7, A.R.V.; 65:8, 11; 145:14-16. {MH 417.3}

Personality of God Revealed in Christ

As a personal being, God has revealed Himself in His Son. The outshining of the Father's glory, "and the express image of His person," Jesus, as a personal Saviour, came to the world. As a personal Saviour He ascended on high. As a personal Saviour He intercedes in the heavenly courts. Before the throne of God in our behalf ministers "One like unto the Son of man." Hebrews 1:3; Revelation 1:13.

Christ, the Light of the world, veiled the dazzling splendour of His divinity and came to live as a man among men, that they might, without being consumed, become acquainted with their Creator. Since sin brought separation between man and his Maker, no man has seen God at any time, except as He is manifested through Christ.

"I and My Father are one," Christ declared. "No man knows the Son, but the Father; neither knows any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal Him." John 10:30; Matthew 11:27.

Christ came to teach human beings what God desires them to know. In the heavens above, in the earth, in the broad waters of the ocean, we see the handiwork of God. All created things testify to His power, His wisdom, His love. Yet not from the stars or the ocean or the cataract can we learn of the personality of God as it was revealed in Christ.

God saw that a clearer revelation than nature was needed to portray both His personality and His character. He sent His Son into the world to manifest, so far as could be endured by human sight, the nature and the attributes of the invisible God.

Revealed to the Disciples

Let us study the words that Christ spoke in the upper chamber on the night before His crucifixion. He was nearing His hour of trial, and He sought to comfort His disciples, who were to be so severely tempted and tried.

"Let not your heart be troubled," He said. "Ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. . .

"Thomas said unto Him, Lord, we know not whither Thou goes; and how can we know the way? Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me. If ye had known Me, ye should have known My Father also: and from henceforth ye know Him, and have seen Him. . . .

"Lord, show us the Father," said Philip, "and it suffices us. Jesus said unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known Me, Philip? he that has seen Me has seen the Father; and how say thou then, Show us the Father? Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of Myself: but the Father that dwells in Me, He doeth the works." John 14:1-10.

The disciples did not yet understand Christ's words concerning His relation to God. Much of His teaching was still dark to them. Christ desired them to have a clearer, more distinct knowledge of God.

"These things have I spoken unto you in parables," He said; "but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in parables, but I shall show you plainly of the Father." John 16:25, margin.

When, on the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples, they understood more fully the truths that Christ had spoken in parables. Much of the teaching that had been a mystery to them was made clear. But not even then did the disciples receive the complete fulfillment of Christ's promise. They received all the knowledge of God that they could bear, but the complete fulfillment of the promise that Christ would show them plainly of the Father was yet to come. Thus it is today. Our knowledge of God is partial and imperfect. When the conflict is ended, and the Man Christ Jesus acknowledges before the Father His faithful workers, who in a world of sin have borne true witness for Him, they will understand clearly what now are mysteries to them.

Christ took with Him to the heavenly courts His glorified humanity. To those who receive Him He gives power to become the sons of God, that at last God may receive them as His, to dwell with Him throughout eternity. If during this life they are loyal to God, they will at last "see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads." Revelation 22:4. And what is the happiness of heaven but to see God? What greater joy could come to the sinner saved by the grace of Christ than to look upon the face of God and know Him as Father?

The Scriptures clearly indicate the relation between God and Christ, and they bring to view as clearly the personality and individuality of each.

"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken unto us by His Son; . . . who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; being made so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said He at any time.

"Thou art My Son, This day have I begotten Thee? And again, I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son?" Hebrews 1:1-5

The personality of the Father and the Son, also the unity that exists between Them, are presented in the seventeenth chapter of John, in the prayer of Christ for His disciples:

"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word; that they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in Us: that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me." John 17:20, 21.

The unity that exists between Christ and His disciples does not destroy the personality of either. They are one in purpose, in mind, in character, but not in person. It is thus that God and Christ are one.

Character of God Revealed in Christ

Taking humanity upon Him, Christ came to be one with humanity, and at the same time to reveal our heavenly Father to sinful human beings. He who had been in the presence of the Father from the beginning, He who was the express image of the invisible God, was alone able to reveal the character of the Deity to mankind. He was in all things made like unto His brethren. He became flesh even as we are. He was hungry and thirsty and weary. He was sustained by food and refreshed by sleep. He shared the lot of men; yet He was the blameless Son of God. He was a stranger and sojourner on the earth--in the world, but not of the world; tempted and tried as men and women today are tempted and tried, yet living a life free from sin. Tender, compassionate, sympathetic, ever considerate of others, He represented the character of God, and was constantly engaged in service for God and man.

"Jehovah has anointed Me," He said, "To preach good tidings unto the poor; He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives," "And recovering of sight to the blind;" "To proclaim the year of Jehovah's favour; . . . To comfort all that mourn." Isaiah 61:1, A.R.V., margin; Luke 4:18; Isaiah 61:2, A.R.V.

"Love your enemies," He bids us; "bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven;" "for He is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil." "He makes His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." Matthew 5:44, 45; Luke 6:35; Matthew 5:45; Luke 6:36.

"Through the tender mercy of our God; . . . The Dayspring from on high has visited us, To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, To guide our feet into the way of peace." Luke 1:78, 79.

The Glory of the Cross

The revelation of God's love to man centres in the cross. Its full significance tongue cannot utter, pen cannot portray, the mind of man cannot comprehend. Looking upon the cross of Calvary, we can only say, "God so loved

the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

Christ crucified for our sins, Christ risen from the dead, Christ ascended on high, is the science of salvation that we are to learn and to teach.

It Was Christ

"Who, existing in the form of God, counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient even unto death, yea, the death of the cross." Philippians 2:6-8, A.R.V.

"It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God." "Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever lives to make intercession for them." Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25.

"We have not a high priest that cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but One that has been in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4:15, A.R.V.

It is through the gift of Christ that we receive every blessing. Through that gift there comes to us day by day the unfailing flow of Jehovah's goodness. Every flower, with its delicate tints and its fragrance, is given for our enjoyment through that one Gift. The sun and the moon were made by Him. There is not a star which beautifies the heavens that He did not make. Every drop of rain that falls, every ray of light shed upon our unthankful world, testifies to the love of God in Christ. Everything is supplied to us through the one unspeakable Gift, God's only-begotten Son. He was nailed to the cross that all these bounties might flow to God's workmanship.

"Behold, what manner of love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God." 1 John 3:1.

"Men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, Neither has the eye seen a God besides Thee, Who works for him that waits for Him." [Isaiah 64:4, A.R.V.]

The Knowledge That Works Transformation

The knowledge of God as revealed in Christ is the knowledge that all who are saved must have. It is the knowledge that works transformation of character. This knowledge, received, will re-create the soul in the image of God. It will impart to the whole being a spiritual power that is divine.

"We all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory." 2 Corinthians 3:18.

Of His own life the Saviour said, "I have kept My Father's commandments." John 15:10. "The Father has not left Me alone; for I do always those things that please Him." John 8:29. As Jesus was in human nature, so God means His followers to be. In His strength we are to live the life of purity and nobility which the Saviour lived.

"For this cause," Paul says, "I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passes knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God." Ephesians 3:14-19.

We "do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every

good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness." Colossians 1:9-11.

This is the knowledge which God is inviting us to receive, and beside which all else is vanity and nothingness.

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, March 29th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 3, p. 95

“Prayer, Praise and Worship”

March 29th

Songs of Praise

And he has put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God; many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord.

Psalm 40:3

I have thought with what joy the angels would look down from heaven upon us if we were all praising God and abiding in Christ. If, indeed, there is joy to the full for the Christian, why should we not possess it, and manifest it to the world? ...

In just a little time Christ will come in power and great glory, and what a terrible thing it would be if we should not be ready! Let us get ready at once. Separate evil from you, begin to sing the song of praise and rejoicing here below.... Let your lips be tuned to praise God.... Angels in heaven are praising God all the time, and here are mortals for whom Christ left the heavenly home and suffered mockery, insult, and death, that He might lift us up to sit in heavenly places, and they offer no song of praise.

If you sit in heavenly places with Christ, you cannot refrain from praising God. Begin to educate your tongues to praise Him and train your hearts to make melody to God; and when the evil one begins to settle his gloom about you, sing praise to God. When things go crossways at your homes, strike up a song about the matchless charms of the Son of God, and I tell you, when you touch this strain, Satan will leave you. You can drive out the enemy with his gloom; ... and you can see, oh, so much clearer, the love and compassion of your heavenly Father.

Those who come into sacred relation with the God of heaven are not left to the natural weakness and infirmity of their natures.... The world loses all attraction for them, for they seek a better country, an eternal world, a life that is to continue through never-ending ages. This is the theme of their thought and conversation. The Word of God becomes exceedingly precious. They discern spiritual things. They rejoice in *“that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ”* (Titus 2:13). They long to see the King in His beauty, the angels that have never fallen, and the land of unfading bloom.

Daily Scripture

Sabbath, March 29th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 31

Into Your Hand I Commit My Spirit

- Psa 31:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.** In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness.
- Psa 31:2 Bow down thine ear to me; deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock, for an house of defence to save me.
- Psa 31:3 For thou *art* my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.
- Psa 31:4 Pull me out of the net that they have laid privily for me: for thou *art* my strength.
- Psa 31:5 Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.
- Psa 31:6 I have hated them that regard lying vanities: but I trust in the LORD.
- Psa 31:7 I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou hast considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversities;
- Psa 31:8 And hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy: thou hast set my feet in a large room.
- Psa 31:9 Have mercy upon me, O LORD, for I am in trouble: mine eye is consumed with grief, *yea*, my soul and my belly.
- Psa 31:10 For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength fails because of mine iniquity, and my bones are consumed.
- Psa 31:11 I was a reproach among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbours, and a fear to mine acquaintance: they that did see me without fled from me.
- Psa 31:12 I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind: I am like a broken vessel.
- Psa 31:13 For I have heard the slander of many: fear *was* on every side: while they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life.
- Psa 31:14 But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said, Thou *art* my God.
- Psa 31:15 My times *are* in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.
- Psa 31:16 Make thy face to shine upon thy servant: save me for thy mercies' sake.
- Psa 31:17 Let me not be ashamed, O LORD; for I have called upon thee: let the wicked be ashamed, *and* let them be silent in the grave.
- Psa 31:18 Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.
- Psa 31:19 *Oh* how great *is* thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; *which* thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!
- Psa 31:20 Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues.
- Psa 31:21 Blessed *be* the LORD: for he has shewed me his marvellous kindness in a strong city.
- Psa 31:22 For I said in my haste, I am cut off from before thine eyes: nevertheless thou heard the voice of my supplications when I cried unto thee.
- Psa 31:23 O love the LORD, all ye his saints: *for* the LORD preserves the faithful, and plentifully rewards the proud doer.
- Psa 31:24 Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD.



April lost her tablet.

The 8-year-old girl needed it very much because she had to do her homework. Every evening, she met online for three hours with a teacher who helped her with her homework. The teacher helped her do her assignments in Bible. The teacher helped her do her assignments in social studies. The teacher helped her do her assignments in grammar, reading, and science. April especially needed help in science because it was her most difficult subject.

But on this evening, April couldn’t find her tablet anywhere. Making matters worse, the next day would be her ninth birthday. How could she celebrate her ninth birthday when her tablet was missing?

Usually, April put the tablet in her bedroom to charge in the afternoon. But this time, she didn’t do that, and she didn’t know where it was.

April looked in her parents’ bedroom. Nothing. She looked in the living room and kitchen. Nothing, nothing.

It was almost 6 o’clock, and she needed to meet online with her teacher. What could she do? April went to Mom for help. “I can’t find my tablet,” she said.

Mom knew that it was time for April to meet online with her teacher. So, she gave her cellphone to April. But she also gave April a warning that she couldn’t watch television until she found her tablet.

“If you don’t find the tablet, you can’t watch TV,” she said.

April wasn’t too worried about not being able to watch television. She was more upset that she had lost her tablet and had had to ask Mom for her cell phone.

That night, after finishing the three hours of online tutoring and before going to sleep, April prayed to the God of heaven. She asked Him to help her find her tablet.

“Dear God, please help me find my tablet because I need it for my studies,” she said.

Then April fell asleep.

As she slept, she had a dream. In the dream, she saw her tablet lying under the couch in the living room.

In the morning, April woke up early and immediately remembered her missing tablet. Then she remembered that it was her birthday. How could she celebrate her birthday when her tablet was missing?

April went to the kitchen to get a drink of water. As she drank, she glanced around the kitchen. Nothing. No tablet. Then she filled her water bottle and grabbed a few snacks for school. At the same time, she kept looking around the kitchen for the tablet. Nothing.

Suddenly, April remembered her dream from the night before. In the dream, she had seen the tablet lying under the couch in the living room.

April ran to the living room and crouched down to look under the couch. Then she saw it! There it was! The lost tablet was found!

April was very happy. She smiled as brightly as the morning sun outside the window. God had answered her prayer. This was the best birthday gift ever!

She straightaway prayed to God and thanked Him for helping her find the tablet.

“Dear Jesus, I know that you are the real living God,” she said. “Thank You for helping me to find my tablet. Please help me to be a good girl and not to forget anything.”

April first learned about the God of heaven at Korat Adventist International School in Thailand. Many children at the school come from families who have never heard about God, but they come to the school for a good Christian education. April, who is in the fourth grade, learned how to pray from her teacher in Bible class.

Part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped build April’s school several years ago. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter that will help other children in Asia also learn about the God of heaven who hears prayers.

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – March 30th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 40:12–26; Isaiah 55:8–9; Isaiah 57:15;

1. How did God proclaim to Israel that there is only one God?

- Deuteronomy 6:4 —
- Isaiah 40: 12–26 —

NOTES : “But the Lord is the true God, He is the living God, and an everlasting King; at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide His indignation. Thus shall ye say unto them, The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens. He has made the earth by his power, He has established the world by His wisdom, and has stretched out the heavens by His discretion. When He utters His voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens, and he causes the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightnings with rain, and brings forth the wind out of His treasures.” The heathen in their blindness bow down to idols of wood and stone. “These be our gods,” they say. But in the fourth commandment we have the proof that our God is the true and living God. In it is the seal of His authority: “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.” In the heavens, that declare the glory of their Maker, the sun, shining in his strength, giving life and beauty to all created things; the moon, and the stars, the works of his hands, we see the superiority of the God we worship. He is the God that “made the heavens and the earth.”—*Signs of the Times, March 18th, 1897*

2. How did God identify Himself to Isaiah?

- Isaiah 57:15, first part. —
- Isaiah 55:8–9 —

NOTES : “Canst thou by searching find out God? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection? It is as high as heaven; what canst thou do? Deeper than hell; what canst thou know?” “My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, said the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.” “I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done.” It is impossible for the finite minds of men to fully comprehend the character or the works of the Infinite One. To the keenest intellect, to the most powerful and highly educated mind, that holy Being must ever remain clothed in mystery. The apostle Paul exclaims: “O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out!”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, page 699*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

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Lesson Scripture

Sunday, March 30th, 2025

[Deuteronomy 6:4]

☞ ⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:

[Isaiah 40:12-26]

☞ ¹² Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

¹³ Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, or *being* his counsellor has taught him?

¹⁴ With whom took he counsel, and *who* instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?

¹⁵ Behold, the nations *are* as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.

¹⁶ And Lebanon *is* not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering.

¹⁷ All nations before him *are* as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.

¹⁸ To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

¹⁹ The workman melts a graven image, and the goldsmith spreads it over with gold, and casts silver chains.

²⁰ He that *is* so impoverished that he has no oblation chooses a tree *that* will not rot; he seeks unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, *that* shall not be moved.

²¹ Have ye not known? have ye not heard? has it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²² *It is* he that sits upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof *are* as grasshoppers; that stretches out the heavens as a curtain, and spreads them out as a tent to dwell in:

²³ That brings the princes to nothing; he makes the judges of the earth as vanity.

²⁴ Yea, they shall not be planted; yea, they shall not be sown: yea, their stock shall not take root in the earth: and he shall also blow upon them, and they shall wither, and the whirlwind shall take them away as stubble.

²⁵ To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? said the Holy One.

²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who has created these *things*, that brings out their host by number: he calls them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that *he is* strong in power; not one fails.

[Isaiah 55:8-9]

☞ ⁸ For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, said the LORD. ⁹ For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

[Isaiah 57:15]

☞ ¹⁵ For thus said the high and lofty One that inhabits eternity, whose name *is* Holy; I dwell in the high and holy *place*, with him also *that is* of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, March 30th, 2025

In Heavenly Places

Chapter 3, p. 96

“Prayer, Praise and Worship”

March 30th

Praising God Before the World

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Hebrews 13:15

We need to offer praise and thanksgiving to God, not only in the congregation, but in the home life. Let the voices of His heritage be heard recounting the works of the Lord. Speak of His goodness, tell of His power....

We feel depressed, greatly depressed, as we see the world and its wickedness. The professed Christian world is enveloped in the darkness that covers the earth. We sigh and cry for the abominations that are done in the land. Why is it that all this wickedness does not break forth in decided violence against righteousness and truth? It is because the four angels are holding the four winds, that they shall not blow upon the earth. But human passions are reaching a high pass, and the Spirit of the Lord is being withdrawn from the earth. Were it not that God has commanded angelic agencies to control the satanic agencies that are seeking to break loose and to destroy, there would be no hope. But the winds are to be held until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads....

Amid the moral darkness light is to shine forth in clear, distinct rays.... But every soul needs to turn his face toward the light that he may reflect this light. We need to praise God much more than we do. We are to show that we have cause for rejoicing. *“Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who has called you out of darkness into his marvellous light”* (1 Peter 2:9). Are we doing this as fully as we should? Are we revealing that love in the home that will honour and glorify our Redeemer?

However black the clouds that roll upon the world at the present time, there is light beyond. Ignorance, superstition, darkness, unbelief strong and masterful, will meet us at every step we advance. But our faith must soar above all and see the bow of promise encircling the throne. We must reflect the light with pen and voice, praising God before the world.

Daily Scripture

Sunday, March 30th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 32

Blessed Are the Forgiven

- Psa 32:1 *A Psalm of David, Maschil.* Blessed *is he* whose transgression *is* forgiven, *whose* sin *is* covered.
- Psa 32:2 Blessed *is* the man unto whom the LORD imputes not iniquity, and in whose spirit *there is* no guile.
- Psa 32:3 When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.
- Psa 32:4 For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.
- Psa 32:5 I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah.
- Psa 32:6 For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou may be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.
- Psa 32:7 Thou *art* my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.
- Psa 32:8 I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.
- Psa 32:9 Be ye not as the horse, *or* as the mule, *which* have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.
- Psa 32:10 Many sorrows *shall be* to the wicked: but he that trusts in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about.
- Psa 32:11 Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all *ye that are* upright in heart.

Monday – March 31st

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 139:1–4; 1 Timothy 6:15–16;

1. Who is the only One immortal by nature?

➤ **1 Timothy 6:15–16 —**

NOTES : “The popular ministry cannot successfully resist spiritualism. They have nothing wherewith to shield their flocks from its baleful influence. Much of the sad result of spiritualism will rest upon ministers of this age; for they have trampled the truth under their feet, and in its stead have preferred fables. The sermon which Satan preached to Eve upon the immortality of the soul, “Ye shall not surely die”, they have reiterated from the pulpit; and the people receive it as pure Bible truth. It is the foundation of spiritualism. The word of God nowhere teaches that the soul of man is immortal. Immortality is an attribute of God only. [1 Timothy 6:16]: “Who only has immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man has seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.” ”—*Testimonies for the Church Vol. 1, page 344*

2. How did David express the omniscience of God?

➤ **Psalm 139:1–4 —**

NOTES : “God knows all things; He is infinite in knowledge and in all wisdom concerning the real condition of every man. Our thoughts are open before Him. And as God knows all things, He knows the mind of every man that He has created.”—*Special Testimonies Series B no. 7, page 53*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Monday, March 31st, 2025

[Psalms 139:1-4]

- ☞ ¹ **To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.** O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known *me*.
- ² Thou know my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understand my thought afar off.
- ³ Thou compasses my path and my lying down, and art acquainted *with* all my ways.
- ⁴ For *there is* not a word in my tongue, *but*, lo, O LORD, thou know it altogether.

[1 Timothy 6:15-16]

- ☞ ¹⁵ Which in his times he shall shew, *who is* the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;
- ¹⁶ Who only has immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man has seen, nor can see: to whom *be* honour and power everlasting. Amen.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, March 31st, 2025

In Heavenly Places

Chapter 3, p. 97

“Prayer, Praise and Worship”

March 31st

Watch and Pray

Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Matthew 26:41

We are pilgrims and strangers in this world, traveling a path beset with dangers from those who have rejected the only One who could save them. Ingenious subterfuges and scientific problems will be held out before us, to tempt us to swerve from our allegiance, but we are not to heed them. Let every soul be on the alert. The adversary is on your track. Be vigilant, watching carefully lest some masterly snare shall take you unaware....

The experience of the disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane contains a lesson for the Lord’s people today.... They did not realize the necessity of watchfulness and earnest prayer in order to withstand temptation. Many today are fast asleep, as were the disciples. They are not watching and praying lest they enter into temptation. Let us often read and give careful study to those portions of God’s Word that have special reference to these last days, pointing out the dangers that will threaten God’s people.

We need keen, sanctified perception. This perception is not to be used in criticizing and condemning one another, but in discerning the signs of the times. We are to keep our hearts with all diligence that we may not make shipwreck of faith. Those who neglect to watch and pray in these days of peril; those who neglect to unite with their brethren in seeking the Lord, but who stand aloof from God’s appointed agencies in the church, are in grave danger of strengthening themselves in their own way, following the impulses of their own minds, and of refusing to heed the admonitions of the Lord....

Let every believer closely examine himself to ascertain what are his weak points. Let him cherish a spirit of humility and plead with the Lord for grace and wisdom and for the faith that works by love and purifies the soul. Let him cast away all self-confidence.... Self-confidence leads to a lack of watchfulness.... Those who walk humbly before God, distrustful of their own wisdom, will realize their danger and will know the power of God’s keeping care.

Daily Scripture

Monday, March 31st, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 33

The Steadfast Love of the Lord

- Psa 33:1 Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: *for* praise is comely for the upright.
- Psa 33:2 Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery *and* an instrument of ten strings.
- Psa 33:3 Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise.
- Psa 33:4 For the word of the LORD *is* right; and all his works *are done* in truth.
- Psa 33:5 He loves righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.
- Psa 33:6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.
- Psa 33:7 He gathers the waters of the sea together as an heap: he lays up the depth in storehouses.
- Psa 33:8 Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.
- Psa 33:9 For he spake, and it was *done*; he commanded, and it stood fast.
- Psa 33:10 The LORD brings the counsel of the heathen to nought: he makes the devices of the people of none effect.
- Psa 33:11 The counsel of the LORD stands for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.
- Psa 33:12 Blessed *is* the nation whose God *is* the LORD; *and* the people *whom* he has chosen for his own inheritance.
- Psa 33:13 The LORD looks from heaven; he beholds all the sons of men.
- Psa 33:14 From the place of his habitation he looks upon all the inhabitants of the earth.
- Psa 33:15 He fashions their hearts alike; he considers all their works.
- Psa 33:16 There is no king saved by the multitude of an host: a mighty man is not delivered by much strength.
- Psa 33:17 An horse *is* a vain thing for safety: neither shall he deliver *any* by his great strength.
- Psa 33:18 Behold, the eye of the LORD *is* upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy;
- Psa 33:19 To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.
- Psa 33:20 Our soul waits for the LORD: he *is* our help and our shield.
- Psa 33:21 For our heart shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name.
- Psa 33:22 Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.

Tuesday – April 1st

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 95:6; Psalm 96:5; Psalms 100:3; Psalm 139:7–12; Isaiah 40:25-26; Isaiah 45:18; Acts 7:27–28; Revelation 4:11;

1. How does the Bible show the omnipresence of God?

➤ **Psalm 139:7–12** —

➤ **Acts 7:27–28** —

NOTES : “We are never alone. We have a companion, whether we choose Him or not. Remember that wherever you are, whatever you are doing, God is there. To your every word and action you have a witness, the holy, sin-hating God. Nothing that is said, or done, or thought, can escape His infinite eye. Your words may not be heard by human ears, but they are heard by the Ruler of the universe. He reads the inward anger of the soul when the will is crossed. He hears the expression of profanity. In the deepest darkness and solitude He is there. No one can deceive God; none can escape from their accountability to Him.”—*Bible Echo, May 2nd, 1898*

2. How does God call on us to look on His works?

➤ **Isaiah 40: 26** —

NOTES : “The duty to worship God is based upon the fact that He is the Creator and that to Him all other beings owe their existence. And wherever, in the Bible, His claim to reverence and worship, above the gods of the heathen, is presented, there is cited the evidence of His creative power. “All the gods of the nations are idols: but the Lord made the heavens.” [Psalm 96: 5] “To whom then will ye liken Me, or shall I be equal? said the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who has created these things.” “Thus said the Lord that created the heavens; God Himself that formed the earth and made it: . . . I am the Lord; and there is none else.” [Isaiah 40:25, 26; 45: 18] Says the psalmist: “Know ye that the Lord He is God: it is He that has made us, and not we ourselves.” “O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.” [Psalms 100: 3; 95: 6] And the holy beings who worship God in heaven state, as the reason why their homage is due to Him: “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for Thou hast created all things.” [Revelation 4:11]”—*The Great Controversy, page 436*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, April 1st, 2025

[Psalms 95:6]

☞ ⁶ O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

[Psalms 96:5]

☞ ⁵ For all the gods of the nations *are* idols: but the LORD made the heavens.

[Psalms 100:3]

☞ ³ Know ye that the LORD he *is* God: *it is* he *that* has made us, and not we ourselves; *we are* his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

[Psalms 139:7-12]

☞ ⁷ Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?
⁸ If I ascend up into heaven, thou *art* there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou *art there*.
⁹ *If* I take the wings of the morning, *and* dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;
¹⁰ Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.
¹¹ If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.
¹² Yea, the darkness hides not from thee; but the night shines as the day: the darkness and the light *are* both alike *to thee*.

[Isaiah 40:25-26]

☞ ²⁵ To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? said the Holy One.
²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who has created these *things*, that brings out their host by number: he calls them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that *he is* strong in power; not one fails.

[Isaiah 45:18]

☞ ¹⁸ For thus said the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he has established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I *am* the LORD; and *there is* none else.

[Acts 7:27-28]

☞ ²⁷ But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?
²⁸ Wilt thou kill me, as thou did the Egyptian yesterday?

[Revelation 4:11]

☞ ¹¹ Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, April 1st, 2025

In Heavenly Places

Chapter 4, p. 98

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 1st

Angel Guards

The angel of the Lord encamps round about them that fear him, and delivers them.

Psalm 34:7

If the curtain could be rolled back, and each one could discern the constant activities of the heavenly family to preserve the inhabitants of the earth from Satan’s seductive wiles, lest in their careless attitude they should be led astray through satanic strategy, they would lose a large degree of their self-confidence and self-assurance. They would see that the armies of heaven are in continual warfare with satanic agencies, to obtain victories in behalf of those who do not sense their danger, and who are passing on in unconscious indifference.

Angels are belting the world, refusing Satan his claims to supremacy, made because of the vast multitude of his adherents. We hear not the voices, we see not with the natural sight the work of these angels, but their hands are linked about the world, and with sleepless vigilance they are keeping the armies of Satan at bay till the sealing of God’s people shall be accomplished.

The ministers of Jehovah, angels have skill and power and great strength, being commissioned to go forth from heaven to earth to minister to His people. They are given the work of keeping back the raging power of him who has come down like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

When we surrender all we have and are to God, and are placed in trying and dangerous positions, coming in contact with Satan, we should remember that we shall have victory in meeting the enemy in the name and power of the Conqueror. Every angel would be commissioned to come to our rescue, when we thus depend upon Christ, rather than that we should be permitted to be overcome. But we need not expect to get the victory without suffering; for Jesus suffered in conquering for us.

The angels of God are communicating with and guarding His people, and are pressing back the powers of darkness that they shall not have any control over those who shall be heirs of salvation. Are we working in harmony with the angels? This is the line of communication the Lord has established with the children of men.

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, April 1st, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 34

Taste and See That the Lord Is Good

- Psa 34:1 ***A Psalm of David, when he changed his behaviour before Abimelech; who drove him away, and he departed.*** I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise *shall* continually *be* in my mouth.
- Psa 34:2 My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear *thereof*, and be glad.
- Psa 34:3 O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- Psa 34:4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.
- Psa 34:5 They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.
- Psa 34:6 This poor man cried, and the LORD heard *him*, and saved him out of all his troubles.
- Psa 34:7 The angel of the LORD encamps round about them that fear him, and delivers them.
- Psa 34:8 O taste and see that the LORD *is* good: blessed *is* the man *that* trusts in him.
- Psa 34:9 O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for *there is* no want to them that fear him.
- Psa 34:10 The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good *thing*.
- Psa 34:11 Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
- Psa 34:12 What man *is he that* desires life, *and* loves *many* days, that he may see good?
- Psa 34:13 Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.
- Psa 34:14 Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.
- Psa 34:15 The eyes of the LORD *are* upon the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their cry.
- Psa 34:16 The face of the LORD *is* against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.
- Psa 34:17 *The righteous* cry, and the LORD hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.
- Psa 34:18 The LORD *is* nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saves such as be of a contrite spirit.
- Psa 34:19 Many *are* the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivers him out of them all.
- Psa 34:20 He keeps all his bones: not one of them is broken.
- Psa 34:21 Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.
- Psa 34:22 The LORD redeems the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.

Wednesday – April 2nd

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Exodus 20:8–11; Exodus 31:13; Ezekiel 20:12;

1. What regular reminder was given to man of his Creator?

➤ **Exodus 20:8–11**

NOTES : “The importance of the Sabbath as the memorial of creation is that it keeps ever present the true reason why worship is due to God” because He is the Creator, and we are His creatures. “The Sabbath therefore lies at the very foundation of divine worship, for it teaches this great truth in the most impressive manner, and no other institution does this. The true ground of divine worship, not of that on the seventh day merely, but of all worship, is found in the distinction between the Creator and His creatures. This great fact can never become obsolete, and must never be forgotten.”—*J. N. Andrews, History of the Sabbath, chapter 27.*

“It was to keep this truth ever before the minds of men, that God instituted the Sabbath in Eden; and so long as the fact that He is our Creator continues to be a reason why we should worship Him, so long the Sabbath will continue as its sign and memorial. Had the Sabbath been universally kept, man's thoughts and affections would have been led to the Creator as the object of reverence and worship, and there would never have been an idolater, an atheist, or an infidel. The keeping of the Sabbath is a sign of loyalty to the true God, “Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.”[] ”—*Great Controversy, page 437*

2. How does Sabbath-keeping also point us to the saving work of Christ?

➤ **Exodus 31:13** —

➤ **Ezekiel 20:12** —

NOTES : “God declares: “Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant.” “It is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you.” We are not merely to observe the Sabbath as a legal matter; we are to be intelligent in regard to its spiritual bearing upon all the transactions of life. Christ's prayer to His Father for His disciples was, “Sanctify them through Thy truth; Thy Word is truth.” The sign of God is sanctification through obedience to the truth. This sanctification makes the loyal subject like his great Head, Jesus Christ. He is brought into peculiar and eternal relations to the Saviour on condition that he maintains his allegiance to the end. When we are thus sanctified, we shall not have a spurious faith, a spurious doctrine, a spurious experience. In coming out from the world and accepting the Sabbath of creation, which God has blessed and sanctified, we give evidence of true conversion. We are stamped with the mark of God's government. As we accept the Sabbath to keep it holy unto the Lord, we are sanctified, soul, body, and spirit.”—*Signs of the Times, November 22nd, 1899*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, April 2nd, 2025

[Exodus 20:8-11]

- ↳ ⁸ Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- ↳ ⁹ Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:
- ↳ ¹⁰ But the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD thy God: *in it* thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates:
- ↳ ¹¹ For *in* six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is*, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

[Exodus 31:13]

- ↳ ¹³ Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my Sabbaths ye shall keep: for it *is* a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that *ye* may know that I *am* the LORD that doth sanctify you.

[Ezekiel 20:12]

- ↳ ¹² Moreover also I gave them my Sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I *am* the LORD that sanctify them.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, April 2nd, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 99

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 2nd

Angels in the Home

For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Psalm 91:11, 12

Angels of God are watching over us. Upon this earth there are thousands and tens of thousands of heavenly messengers commissioned by the Father to prevent Satan from obtaining any advantage over those who refuse to walk in the path of evil. And these angels who guard God’s children on earth are in communication with the Father in heaven. “Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones,” Christ said; “for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 18:10).

Scarcely any of us realize that angels are about us; and these precious angels, who minister to those who shall be heirs of salvation, are saving from us many, many temptations and difficulties. The whole family of heaven is interested in the families here below; and how thankful we should be for this interest manifested for us day and night.

Words spoken in our homes which are impatient and unkind, angels hear; and do you want to find in the books of heaven a record of the impatient and passionate words you have uttered in your family? Impatience brings the enemy of God and man into your family and drives out the angels of God. If you are abiding in Christ, and Christ in you, you cannot speak angry words.

Fathers and mothers, I beseech you for Christ’s sake, to be kind, tender, and patient in your homes. Then light and sunshine will enter your homes, and you will feel that bright beams from the Sun of Righteousness are indeed shining into your hearts.

It is the absence of the graces of God’s Spirit that leaves the home in a dark, unhappy condition. Your home should be a blessed sanctuary where God can come in, and where His holy angels can minister unto you. If impatience and unkindness are manifested one to another, angels cannot be attracted to your home; but where love and peace abide, these heavenly ones love to come and bring still more of the holy influence of the home above.

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, April 2nd, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 35

Great Is the Lord

- Psa 35:1 *A Psalm of David.* Plead *my cause*, O LORD, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me.
- Psa 35:2 Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for mine help.
- Psa 35:3 Draw out also the spear, and stop *the way* against them that persecute me: say unto my soul, I *am* thy salvation.
- Psa 35:4 Let them be confounded and put to shame that seek after my soul: let them be turned back and brought to confusion that devise my hurt.
- Psa 35:5 Let them be as chaff before the wind: and let the angel of the LORD chase *them*.
- Psa 35:6 Let their way be dark and slippery: and let the angel of the LORD persecute them.
- Psa 35:7 For without cause have they hid for me their net *in* a pit, *which* without cause they have dug for my soul.
- Psa 35:8 Let destruction come upon him at unawares; and let his net that he has hid catch himself: into that very destruction let him fall.
- Psa 35:9 And my soul shall be joyful in the LORD: it shall rejoice in his salvation.
- Psa 35:10 All my bones shall say, LORD, who *is* like unto thee, which delivers the poor from him that is too strong for him, yea, the poor and the needy from him that spoils him?
- Psa 35:11 False witnesses did rise up; they laid to my charge *things* that I knew not.
- Psa 35:12 They rewarded me evil for good *to* the spoiling of my soul.
- Psa 35:13 But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing *was* sackcloth: I humbled my soul with fasting; and my prayer returned into mine own bosom.
- Psa 35:14 I behaved myself as though *he had been* my friend *or* brother: I bowed down heavily, as one that mourns *for his* mother.
- Psa 35:15 But in mine adversity they rejoiced, and gathered themselves together: *yea*, the abjects gathered themselves together against me, and I knew *it* not; they did tear *me*, and ceased not:
- Psa 35:16 With hypocritical mockers in feasts, they gnashed upon me with their teeth.
- Psa 35:17 Lord, how long wilt thou look on? rescue my soul from their destructions, my darling from the lions.
- Psa 35:18 I will give thee thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people.
- Psa 35:19 Let not them that are mine enemies wrongfully rejoice over me: *neither* let them wink with the eye that hate me without a cause.
- Psa 35:20 For they speak not peace: but they devise deceitful matters against *them that are* quiet in the land.
- Psa 35:21 Yea, they opened their mouth wide against me, *and* said, Aha, aha, our eye has seen *it*.
- Psa 35:22 *This* thou hast seen, O LORD: keep not silence: O Lord, be not far from me.
- Psa 35:23 Stir up thyself, and awake to my judgment, *even* unto my cause, my God and my Lord.
- Psa 35:24 Judge me, O LORD my God, according to thy righteousness; and let them not rejoice over me.
- Psa 35:25 Let them not say in their hearts, Ah, so would we have it: let them not say, We have swallowed him up.
- Psa 35:26 Let them be ashamed and brought to confusion together that rejoice at mine hurt: let them be clothed with shame and dishonour that magnify *themselves* against me.
- Psa 35:27 Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which has pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.
- Psa 35:28 And my tongue shall speak of thy righteousness *and* of thy praise all the day long.

Thursday – April 3rd

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Exodus 20:10-11; Deuteronomy 6:4–5; Deuteronomy 6:24-25; Ezekiel 20:20; Revelation 14:6–7;

1. What call is to be given universally at the time when God is judging the world?

➤ **Revelation 14:6–7** —

NOTES : “In Revelation 14, men are called upon the worship the Creator; and the prophecy brings to view a class that, as the result of the threefold message, are keeping the commandments of God. One of these commandments points directly to God as the Creator. The fourth precept declares: “The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: . . . for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.” [Exodus 20:10-11] Concerning the Sabbath, the Lord says, further, that it is “a sign, . . . that ye may know that I am the Lord your God.” [Ezekiel 20:20]”—*Great Controversy*, page 437

2. How do we demonstrate that He is truly 'the Lord our God'?

➤ **Deuteronomy 6:4–5** —

➤ **Deuteronomy 6:24-25** —

NOTES : “The first four of the Ten Commandments are summed up in the one great precept, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart.” The last six are included in the other, “Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” Both these commandments are an expression of the principle of love. The first cannot be kept and the second broken, nor can the second be kept while the first is broken. When God has His rightful place on the throne of the heart, the right place will be given to our neighbour. We shall love him as ourselves. And only as we love God supremely is it possible to love our neighbour impartially. And since all the commandments are summed up in love to God and man, it follows that not one precept can be broken without violating this principle. Thus Christ taught His hearers that the law of God is not so many separate precepts, some of which are of great importance, while others are of small importance and may with impunity be ignored. Our Lord presents the first four and the last six commandments as a divine whole, and teaches that love to God will be shown by obedience to all His commandments.”—*The Desire of Ages*, page 607

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Thursday, April 3rd, 2025

[Exodus 20:10-11]

- ↳ ¹⁰ But the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD thy God: *in it* thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates:
¹¹ For *in* six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is*, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

[Deuteronomy 6:4-5]

- ↳ ⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:
⁵ And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

[Deuteronomy 6:24-25]

- ↳ ²⁴ And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as *it is* at this day.
²⁵ And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us.

[Ezekiel 20:20]

- ↳ ²⁰ And hallow my Sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I *am* the LORD your God.

[Revelation 14:6-7]

- ↳ ⁶ And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,
⁷ Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, April 3rd, 2025

*In Heavenly Places,
Chapter 4, p. 100*

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 3rd

Special Care for the Weak

Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 18:10

Man is God’s property, and angels are looking with intense interest to see how man will deal with his fellow man. When heavenly intelligences see those who claim to be the sons and daughters of God putting forth Christlike efforts to help the erring, manifesting a tender, sympathetic spirit for the repentant and the fallen, angels press close to them and bring to their remembrance the very words that will soothe and uplift the soul. Holy angels are on the track of every one of us. We are not to despise the least of God’s little ones....

Jesus has given His precious life, His personal attention, to the least of God’s little ones; and angels that excel in strength encamp round about them that fear God. Then let us be upon our guard, and never permit one contemptuous thought to occupy the mind in regard to one of the little ones of God. We should look after the erring with solicitude, and speak encouraging words to the fallen, and fear lest by some unwise action we shall turn them away from the pitying Saviour....

All heaven is interested in the work of saving the lost. Angels watch with intense interest to see who will leave the ninety and nine and go out in tempest and storm and rain into the wild desert to seek the lost sheep. The lost are all around us, perishing and sadly neglected. But they are of value to God, the purchase of the blood of Christ.

By all that has given us advantage over another—be it education and refinement, nobility of character, Christian training, religious experience—*we are in debt to those less favoured*; and, so far as lies in our power, we are to minister unto them. If we are strong, we are to stay up the hands of the weak. Angels of glory, that do always behold the face of the Father in heaven, make such their special charge. Angels are ever present where they are most needed, with those who have the hardest battle with self to fight and whose surroundings are the most disagreeable. And in this ministry Christ’s true followers will co-operate.

Daily Scripture

Thursday, April 3rd, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 36

How Precious Is Your Steadfast Love

- Psa 36:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David the servant of the LORD.** The transgression of the wicked says within my heart, *that there is* no fear of God before his eyes.
- Psa 36:2 For he flatters himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity be found to be hateful.
- Psa 36:3 The words of his mouth *are* iniquity and deceit: he has left off to be wise, *and* to do good.
- Psa 36:4 He devises mischief upon his bed; he sets himself in a way *that is* not good; he abhors not evil.
- Psa 36:5 Thy mercy, O LORD, *is* in the heavens; *and* thy faithfulness *reaches* unto the clouds.
- Psa 36:6 Thy righteousness *is* like the great mountains; thy judgments *are* a great deep: O LORD, thou preserves man and beast.
- Psa 36:7 How excellent *is* thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.
- Psa 36:8 They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.
- Psa 36:9 For with thee *is* the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.
- Psa 36:10 O continue thy lovingkindness unto them that know thee; and thy righteousness to the upright in heart.
- Psa 36:11 Let not the foot of pride come against me, and let not the hand of the wicked remove me.
- Psa 36:12 There are the workers of iniquity fallen: they are cast down, and shall not be able to rise.

Preparation Day – April 4th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Deuteronomy 4:6–8; Isaiah 57:15;

1. Though God is 'the high and lofty One', with whom will God dwell?

➤ **Isaiah 57:15** —

NOTES : “The proud heart strives to earn salvation; but both our title to heaven and our fitness for it are found in the righteousness of Christ. The Lord can do nothing toward the recovery of man until, convinced of his own weakness, and stripped of all self-sufficiency, he yields himself to the control of God. Then he can receive the gift that God is waiting to bestow. From the soul that feels his need, nothing is withheld. He has unrestricted access to Him in whom all fullness dwells.”—*The Desire of Ages*, page 300

2. What blessings are promised to those who do as God commands?

➤ **Deuteronomy 4:6–8** —

NOTES : “The purpose which God seeks to accomplish through His people today is the same that He desired to accomplish through Israel when He brought them forth out of Egypt. By beholding the goodness, the mercy, the justice, and the love of God revealed in the church, the world is to have a representation of His character. And when the law of God is thus exemplified in the life, even the world will recognise the superiority of those who love and fear and serve God above every other people on the earth. The Lord has His eye upon every one of His people; He has His plans concerning each. It is His purpose that those who practice His holy precepts shall be a distinguished people.”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 6, page 12*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, April 4th, 2025

[Deuteronomy 4:6-8]

- ↳ ⁶ Keep therefore and do *them*; for this *is* your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation *is* a wise and understanding people.
- ⁷ For what nation *is there so* great, who *has* God *so* nigh unto them, as the LORD our God *is* in all *things that* we call upon him *for*?
- ⁸ And what nation *is there so* great, that has statutes and judgments *so* righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?

[Isaiah 57:15]

- ↳ ¹⁵ For thus said the high and lofty One that inhabits eternity, whose name *is* Holy; I dwell in the high and holy *place*, with him also *that is* of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, April 4th, 2025

*In Heavenly Places,
Chapter 4, p. 101*

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 4th

I Have a Guardian Angel

Bless the Lord, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.

Psalm 103:20

Today, as in the past, all heaven is watching to see the church develop in the true science of salvation. The Lord Jesus is among men. His angels walk among us unrecognized and unacknowledged. We are saved from many snares and unseen dangers that through the machinations and hostility of our foe are placed in our path to destroy us. O that our eyes might be open to discern the watchful solicitude and tender care of the messengers of light! If those who politely acknowledge the favours which they receive from earthly friends would realize how much they owe to God, their hearts would respond in grateful thanks for precious favours that are now unnoticed.

We do not recount God’s mercies often enough.... By our failure to express gratitude we are dishonouring our Maker. His angels, thousands upon thousands and ten thousand times ten thousand, are commissioned to minister to those who shall be heirs of salvation. They guard us against temporal evil and press back the powers of darkness, else we should be destroyed. Why do we not value God’s watchcare? If Satan had his way and carried out his designs, destruction would be seen on every hand. Why do we not remember that we are mercifully shielded from peril? Have we not reason to be thankful every moment, thankful even when there are apparent difficulties in our pathway? Cannot we trust our heavenly Father?

We shall never know what dangers, seen and unseen, we have been delivered from through the interposition of the angels until we shall see in the light of eternity the providences of God. Then we shall better understand what God has done for us all the days of our life. We shall know then that the whole heavenly family watched to see our course of action from day to day.

Every believer who constantly realizes his dependence on God has his appointed angel, sent from heaven to minister to him. The ministry of these angels is especially essential now, for Satan is making his last desperate effort to secure the world.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, April 4th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 37

He Will Not Forsake His Saints

- Psa 37:1 *A Psalm of David.* Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.
- Psa 37:2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.
- Psa 37:3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; *so* shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.
- Psa 37:4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.
- Psa 37:5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring *it* to pass.
- Psa 37:6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.
- Psa 37:7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who brings wicked devices to pass.
- Psa 37:8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.
- Psa 37:9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.
- Psa 37:10 For yet a little while, and the wicked *shall not be*: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it *shall not be*.
- Psa 37:11 But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.
- Psa 37:12 The wicked plot against the just, and gnashes upon him with his teeth.
- Psa 37:13 The Lord shall laugh at him: for he sees that his day is coming.
- Psa 37:14 The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, *and* to slay such as be of upright conversation.
- Psa 37:15 Their sword shall enter into their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.
- Psa 37:16 A little that a righteous man has *is* better than the riches of many wicked.
- Psa 37:17 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken: but the LORD upholds the righteous.
- Psa 37:18 The LORD knows the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever.
- Psa 37:19 They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.
- Psa 37:20 But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the LORD *shall be* as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away.
- Psa 37:21 The wicked borrows, and pays not again: but the righteous shews mercy, and giveth.
- Psa 37:22 For *such as be* blessed of him shall inherit the earth; and *they that be* cursed of him shall be cut off.
- Psa 37:23 The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD: and he delights in his way.
- Psa 37:24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholds *him with* his hand.
- Psa 37:25 I have been young, and *now* am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.
- Psa 37:26 *He is* ever merciful, and lends; and his seed *is* blessed.
- Psa 37:27 Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore.
- Psa 37:28 For the LORD loves judgment, and forsakes not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.
- Psa 37:29 The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.
- Psa 37:30 The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom, and his tongue talks of judgment.
- Psa 37:31 The law of his God *is* in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.
- Psa 37:32 The wicked watches the righteous, and seeks to slay him.
- Psa 37:33 The LORD will not leave him in his hand, nor condemn him when he is judged.

- Psa 37:34 Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see *it*.
- Psa 37:35 I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree.
- Psa 37:36 Yet he passed away, and, lo, he *was* not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found.
- Psa 37:37 Mark the perfect *man*, and behold the upright: for the end of *that* man *is* peace.
- Psa 37:38 But the transgressors shall be destroyed together: the end of the wicked shall be cut off.
- Psa 37:39 But the salvation of the righteous *is* of the LORD: *he is* their strength in the time of trouble.
- Psa 37:40 And the LORD shall help them, and deliver them: he shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in him.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, April 4th, 2025



Chhaina [China] grew up hating the name of Jesus Christ. Chhaina belonged to a major world religion in Cambodia, and he and his family hated Christianity.

But then Chhaina’s family began to hate him.

It all started when Chhaina’s grandfather died suddenly. Chhaina loved his grandfather and had spent a lot of time with him. But in their religion, if you spend a lot of time with someone, and something bad happens, you are considered responsible. Chhaina’s family wondered if the boy was unlucky.

Then Chhaina’s uncle died suddenly. Chhaina had spent a lot of time with his uncle. Now his family really began to wonder if he was unlucky.

Then Chhaina’s parents went bankrupt. They sold everything that they owned but, still deep in debt, moved across the border to Thailand to work at a television factory. Chhaina was told to stay behind.

“Your life has not brought peace but only destruction,” one family member said.

“You should never have been born,” said another.

Chhaina was 18 and he felt very alone, and then a friend invited him to guitar lessons at a Seventh-day Adventist church. Chhaina felt torn. He knew that Adventists loved Jesus. He hated Jesus. But he loved the guitar, and he really wanted to learn how to play, so he went to the Adventist church.

After that, he didn’t miss a guitar lesson at the church. He immediately liked the pastor and his wife. They spoke about a Jesus who was very different from the Jesus whom he had heard about from his parents. They said Jesus didn’t only love people who loved Him; Jesus also loved people who hated Him. His love was so big that He died so that even people who hated Him could live eternally.

Chhaina began to go to church every Sabbath. A love for Jesus grew in his heart, and he was baptized. He prayed to be reunited with his parents. He wanted them to accept him without worrying that he was unlucky. “I want my family back,” he prayed every day. “I promise to serve You for the rest of my life and not serve any other god.”

But Jesus seemed so silent. Chhaina didn’t have a full understanding of the role of faith in the Christian life. His family’s traditional religion put a major emphasis on works. So, as he prayed, he decided to prove through his works that he was worthy of a response. He volunteered for One Year in Mission, a church initiative in which he spent a year in mission service. Then he helped a French missionary distribute Bibles in Cambodia. He hoped that his church work would convince Jesus to answer his prayers. But Jesus seemed so silent. At times, Chhaina felt upset, and he prayed, “I’m doing so much for You. Why aren’t You doing anything for me?”

After five years, Chhaina’s parents returned to Cambodia. They had no choice. The authorities in Thailand didn’t renew their work visas. With no land or home, they accepted an invitation from Chhaina to stay with him in his rented home.

It no longer mattered if he was unlucky. They had nowhere else to go.

On Sabbath, Chhaina invited his parents to church. “You don’t have any money, but we will find food for all of us there,” he said.

The church members warmly welcomed his parents, and his parents enjoyed the fellowship meal. The next Sabbath, they returned for more food and fellowship, and their hearts began to soften. The Jesus whom they heard about at church was very different from the Jesus whom they had hated for so many years. A year passed, and Chhaina’s parents were baptized.

It was the biggest miracle that Chhaina could have imagined. Jesus not only answered his prayer to bring his parents back to Cambodia, but He also won their hearts. Jesus had done much more than he had asked. With astonishment, he realized that Jesus had answered his prayers not because of anything that he had done but because of who Jesus is.

Today, Chhaina no longer feels unlucky. He feels loved. He has not forgotten his promise to serve Jesus for the rest of his life. Today, he is studying theology at Asia-Pacific International University in Thailand in preparation for a life of mission service.

Chhaina is among thousands of students who have studied at Asia-Pacific International University because of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. Part of that 1988 offering helped build the campus of what was then called Thailand Mission College. The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering continues to bless Chhaina and many others 36 years later. Thank you for being faithful with your mission giving.

By Andrew McChesney

LESSON 2

“THE WORD OF HIS POWER”

April 5 — April 11

📖 MEMORY VERSE : *“As for God, His way is perfect; The Word of The LORD is tried: He is a buckler to all them that trust in Him. For who is God, save The LORD and who is a rock, save our God? God is my strength and power: And He makes my way perfect.”*
[2 Samuel 22:31–33]

? STUDY HELP : ✓ Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 2, p. 261 - 268

🗣 INTRODUCTION : “It is not necessary that anyone should yield to the temptations of Satan and thus violate his conscience and grieve the Holy Spirit. Every provision has been made in the word of God whereby all may have divine help in their endeavours to overcome. If they keep Jesus before them, they will become changed into His image. All who by faith have Christ abiding in them carry a power into their labour which makes them successful.”
— *Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 574*

Sabbath – April 5th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 33:6; Psalm 33:9; Romans 4:17;

1. How did God demonstrate the power of His word in creation?

➤ Psalm 33:6 —

➤ Psalm 33:9 —

NOTE : “In the study of the Bible the student should be led to see the power of God's word. In the creation, “He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.” [Psalm 33:9] He “calls those things which be not as though they were” [Romans 4:17]; for when He calls them, they are.”—*Education, page 254*

2. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, April 5th, 2025

[Psalms 33:6]

↳ ⁶ By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

[Psalms 33:9]

↳ ⁹ For he spake, and it was *done*; he commanded, and it stood fast.

[Romans 4:17]

↳ ¹⁷ (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, *even* God, who quickens the dead, and calls those things which be not as though they were.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

Testimonies for the Church
Volume 2, Chapter 38, p. 261-268

“A Birthday Letter”

My Dear Son: I write this for your nineteenth birthday. It has been a pleasure to have you with us a few weeks in the past. You are about to leave us, yet our prayers shall follow you.

Another year of your life closes today. How can you look back upon it? Have you made advancement in the divine life? Have you increased in spirituality? Have you crucified self, with the affections and lusts? Have you an increased interest in the study of God's word? Have you gained decided victories over your own failings and waywardness? Oh, what has been the record of your life for the year which has now passed into eternity, never to be recalled?

As you enter upon a new year, let it be with an earnest resolve to have your course onward and upward. Let your life be more elevated and exalted than it has hitherto been. Make it your aim not to seek your own interest and pleasure, but to advance the cause of your Redeemer. Remain not in a position where you ever need help yourself, and where others have to guard you to keep you in the narrow way. You may be strong to exert a sanctifying influence upon others. You may be where your soul's interest will be awakened to do good to others, to comfort the sorrowful, strengthen the weak, and to bear your testimony for Christ whenever opportunity offers. Aim to honour God in everything, always and everywhere. Carry your religion into everything. Be thorough in whatever you undertake.

You have not experienced the saving power of God as it is your privilege, because you have not made it the great aim of your life to glorify Christ. Let every purpose you form, every work in which you engage, and every pleasure you enjoy, be to the glory of God. Let this be the language of your heart: I am thine, O God, to live for Thee, to work for Thee, and to suffer for Thee.

Many profess to be on the Lord's side, but they are not; the weight of all their actions is on Satan's side. By what means shall we determine whose side we are on? Who has the heart? With whom are our thoughts? Upon whom do we love to converse? Who has our warmest affections and our best energies? If we are on the Lord's side, our thoughts are with Him, and our sweetest thoughts are of Him. We have no friendship with the world; we have consecrated all that we have and are to Him. We long to bear His image, breathe His Spirit, do His will, and please Him in all things.

You should pursue so decided a course that none need to be mistaken in you. You cannot exert an influence upon the world without decision. Your resolutions may be good and sincere, but they will prove a failure unless you make God your strength and move forward with a firm determination of purpose. You should throw your whole heart into the cause and work of God. You should be in earnest to obtain an experience in the Christian life. You should exemplify Christ in your life.

You cannot serve God and mammon. You are either wholly on the Lord's side or on the side of the enemy. "He that is not with Me is against Me; and he that gathers not with Me scatters abroad." Some persons make their religious life a failure because they are always wavering and do not have determination. They are frequently convicted and come almost up to the point of surrendering all for God; but, failing to meet the point, they fall back again. While in this state the conscience is hardening and becoming less and less susceptible to the impressions of the Spirit of God. His Spirit has warned, has convicted, and has been disregarded, until it is nearly grieved away.

God will not be trifled with. He shows duty clearly, and if there is a neglect to follow the light, it becomes darkness.

God bids you become a worker with Him in His vineyard. Commence just where you are. Come to the cross and there renounce self, the world, and every idol. Take Jesus into your heart fully. You are in a hard place to preserve consecration and to exert an influence which shall lead others from sin and pleasure and folly to the narrow way, cast up for the ransomed of the Lord to walk in.

Make an entire surrender to God; yield up everything unreservedly, and thus seek for that peace which passes understanding. You cannot draw nourishment from Christ unless you are in Him. If not in Him, you are a branch that is withered. You do not feel your want of purity and true holiness. You should feel an earnest desire for the Holy Spirit and should pray earnestly to obtain it. You cannot expect the blessing of God without seeking for it. If you used the means within your reach you would experience a growth in grace and would rise to a higher life.

It is not natural for you to love spiritual things; but you can acquire that love by exercising your mind, the strength of your being, in that direction. The power of doing is what you need. True education is the power of using our faculties so as to achieve beneficial results. Why is it that religion occupies so little of our attention, while the world has the strength of brain, bone, and muscle? It is because the whole force of our being is bent in that direction. We have trained ourselves to engage with earnestness and power in worldly business, until it is easy for the mind to take that turn. This is why Christians find a religious life so hard and a worldly life so easy. The faculties have been trained to exert their force in that direction. In religious life there has been an assent to the truths of God's word, but not a practical illustration of them in the life.

To cultivate religious thoughts and devotional feelings is not made a part of education. These should influence and control the entire being. The habit of doing right is wanting. There is spasmodic action under favourable influences, but to think naturally and readily upon divine things is not the ruling principle of the mind.

There is no need of being spiritual dwarfs if the mind is continually exercised in spiritual things. But merely praying for this, and about this, will not meet the necessities of the case. You must habituate the mind to concentration upon spiritual things. Exercise will bring strength. Many professed Christians are in a fair way to lose both worlds. To be half a Christian and half a worldly man makes you about one-hundredth part a Christian and all the rest worldly.

Spiritual living is what God requires, yet thousands are crying out: "I don't know what is the matter; I have no spiritual strength, I do not enjoy the Spirit of God." Yet the same ones will become active and talkative, and even eloquent, when talking upon worldly matters. Listen to such ones in meeting. About a dozen words are spoken in hardly an audible voice. They are men and women of the world. They have cultivated worldly propensities until their faculties have become strong in that direction. Yet they are as weak as babes in regard to spiritual things, when they should be strong and intelligent. They do not love to dwell upon the mystery of godliness. They know not the language of heaven and are not educating their minds so as to be prepared to sing the songs of heaven or to delight in the spiritual exercises which will there engage the attention of all.

Professed Christians, worldly Christians, are unacquainted with heavenly things. They will never be brought to the gates of the New Jerusalem to engage in exercises which have not hitherto specially interested them. They have not trained their minds to delight in devotion and in meditation upon things of God and heaven. How, then, can they engage in the services of heaven? how delight in the spiritual, the pure, the holy in heaven, when it was not a special delight to them upon earth? The very atmosphere there will be purity itself. But they are unacquainted with it all. When in the world, pursuing their worldly vocations, they knew just where to take hold and just what to do. The lower order of faculties being in so constant exercise, grew, while the higher, nobler powers of the mind, not being strengthened by use, are incapable of awaking at once to spiritual exercises. Spiritual things are not discerned, because they are viewed with world-loving eyes, which cannot estimate the value and glory of the divine above the temporal.

The mind must be educated and disciplined to love purity. A love for spiritual things should be encouraged; yea, must be encouraged, if you would grow in grace and in the knowledge of the truth. Desires for goodness and true holiness are right so far as they go; but if you stop here, they will avail nothing. Good purposes are right, but will

prove of no avail unless resolutely carried out. Many will be lost while hoping and desiring to be Christians; but they made no earnest effort, therefore they will be weighed in the balances and found wanting. The will must be exercised in the right direction. I will be a wholehearted Christian. I will know the length and breadth, the height and depth, of perfect love. Listen to the words of Jesus: "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." Ample provisions are made by Christ to satisfy the soul that hungers and thirsts for righteousness.

The pure element of love will expand the soul for higher attainments, for increased knowledge of divine things, so that it will not be satisfied short of the fullness. Most professed Christians have no sense of the spiritual strength they might obtain were they as ambitious, zealous, and persevering to gain a knowledge of divine things as they are to obtain the paltry, perishable things of this life. The masses professing to be Christians have been satisfied to be spiritual dwarfs. They have no disposition to make it their object to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; hence godliness is a hidden mystery to them, they cannot understand it. They know not Christ by experimental knowledge.

Let those men and women who are satisfied with their dwarfed, crippled condition in divine things be suddenly transported to heaven and for an instant witness the high, the holy state of perfection that ever abides there,--every soul filled with love; every countenance beaming with joy; enchanting music in melodious strains rising in honour of God and the Lamb; and ceaseless streams of light flowing upon the saints from the face of Him who sits upon the throne, and from the Lamb; and let them realize that there is higher and greater joy yet to experience, for the more they receive of the enjoyment of God, the more is their capacity increased to rise higher in eternal enjoyment, and thus continue to receive new and greater supplies from the ceaseless sources of glory and bliss inexpressible,--could such persons, I ask, mingle with the heavenly throng, participate in their songs, and endure the pure, exalted, transporting glory that emanates from God and the Lamb? Oh, no! their probation was lengthened for years that they might learn the language of heaven, that they might become "partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." But they had a selfish business of their own to engage the powers of their minds and the energies of their beings. They could not afford to serve God unreservedly and make this a business. Worldly enterprises must come first and take the best of their powers, and a transient thought is devoted to God. Are such to be transformed after the final decision: "He that is holy, let him be holy still," "he which is filthy, let him be filthy still"? Such a time is coming.

Those who have trained the mind to delight in spiritual exercises are the ones who can be translated and not be overwhelmed with the purity and transcendent glory of heaven. You may have a good knowledge of the arts, you may have an acquaintance with the sciences, you may excel in music and in penmanship, your manners may please your associates, but what have these things to do with a preparation for heaven? What have they to do to prepare you to stand before the tribunal of God?

Be not deceived. God is not mocked. Nothing but holiness will prepare you for heaven. It is sincere, experimental piety alone that can give you a pure, elevated character and enable you to enter into the presence of God, who dwells in light unapproachable. The heavenly character must be acquired on earth, or it can never be acquired at all. Then begin at once. Flatter not yourself that a time will come when you can make an earnest effort easier than now. Every day increases your distance from God. Prepare for eternity with such zeal as you have not yet manifested. Educate your mind to love the Bible, to love the prayer meeting, to love the hour of meditation, and, above all, the hour when the soul communes with God. Become heavenly-minded if you would unite with the heavenly choir in the mansions above.

A new year of your life now commences. A new page is turned in the book of the recording angel. What will be the record upon its pages? Shall it be blotted with neglect of God, with unfulfilled duties? God forbid. Let a record be stamped there which you will not be ashamed to have revealed to the gaze of men and angels. Greenville, Michigan, July 27, 1868.

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, April 5th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 102

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 5th

Working With the Angels

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

Hebrews 1:14

One part of the ministry of heavenly angels is to visit our world and oversee the work of the Lord which is in the hands of His stewards. In every time of necessity they minister to those who as co-workers with God are striving to carry forward His work in the earth.... The angelic hosts rejoice whenever any part of God’s work prospers.

Angels are interested in the spiritual welfare of all who are seeking to restore the moral image of God in man, and the human family are to connect with the heavenly family in binding up the wounds and bruises that sin has made. Angelic agencies, though invisible, are cooperating with visible human agencies, forming a relief association with men. The very angels who, when Satan was seeking the supremacy, fought the battle in the heavenly courts and triumphed on the side of God, the very angels who shouted for joy over the creation of our world and over the creation of our first parents to inhabit the earth, the angels who witnessed the fall of man and his expulsion from his Eden home—these very heavenly messengers are most intensely interested to work in union with the fallen, redeemed race for the salvation of human beings perishing in their sins.

Human agencies are the hands of heavenly instrumentalities, for heavenly angels employ human hands in practical ministry.... By uniting with these powers that are omnipotent, we are benefited by their higher education and experience. Thus, as we become partakers of the divine nature and separate selfishness from our lives, special talents for helping one another are granted us....

With what joy and delight Heaven looks upon these blended influences! All heaven is watching those agencies that are as the hand to work out the purposes of God in the earth, thus doing the will and purpose of God in heaven. Such cooperation accomplishes a work that brings honour and glory and majesty to God. Oh, if all would love as Christ has loved, that perishing men might be saved from ruin, what a change would come to our world!

Daily Scripture

Sabbath, April 5th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 38

Do Not Forsake Me, O Lord

- Psa 38:1 **A Psalm of David, to bring to remembrance.** O LORD, rebuke me not in thy wrath: neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.
- Psa 38:2 For thine arrows stick fast in me, and thy hand presses me sore.
- Psa 38:3 *There is* no soundness in my flesh because of thine anger; neither *is there any* rest in my bones because of my sin.
- Psa 38:4 For mine iniquities are gone over mine head: as an heavy burden they are too heavy for me.
- Psa 38:5 My wounds stink *and* are corrupt because of my foolishness.
- Psa 38:6 I am troubled; I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long.
- Psa 38:7 For my loins are filled with a loathsome *disease*: and *there is* no soundness in my flesh.
- Psa 38:8 I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart.
- Psa 38:9 Lord, all my desire *is* before thee; and my groaning is not hid from thee.
- Psa 38:10 My heart pants, my strength fails me: as for the light of mine eyes, it also is gone from me.
- Psa 38:11 My lovers and my friends stand aloof from my sore; and my kinsmen stand afar off.
- Psa 38:12 They also that seek after my life lay snares *for me*: and they that seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and imagine deceits all the day long.
- Psa 38:13 But I, as a deaf *man*, heard not; and *I was* as a dumb man *that* opens not his mouth.
- Psa 38:14 Thus I was as a man that hears not, and in whose mouth *are* no reproofs.
- Psa 38:15 For in thee, O LORD, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord my God.
- Psa 38:16 For I said, *Hear me*, lest *otherwise* they should rejoice over me: when my foot slips, they magnify *themselves* against me.
- Psa 38:17 For I *am* ready to halt, and my sorrow *is* continually before me.
- Psa 38:18 For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin.
- Psa 38:19 But mine enemies *are* lively, *and* they are strong: and they that hate me wrongfully are multiplied.
- Psa 38:20 They also that render evil for good are mine adversaries; because I follow *the thing that* good *is*.
- Psa 38:21 Forsake me not, O LORD: O my God, be not far from me.
- Psa 38:22 Make haste to help me, O Lord my salvation.

Children’s Mission Story

Sabbath, April 5th, 2025



Have you heard the story about the Good Samaritan from the Bible?

Kaopan [COW-paan] heard about the Good Samaritan for the first time when he was 4. He didn’t own a Bible. He had never heard Bible stories at home because his family wasn’t Christian. He heard about the Good Samaritan at his Seventh-day Adventist kindergarten in Thailand.

Little Kaopan listened with rapt attention as the teacher told the story about a certain man who was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho when he was attacked by robbers and left half-dead. Then a priest happened to come down the road. When the priest saw the hurt man, he didn’t stop to help but passed by on the other side. After that, a Levite came down the road. He looked at the hurt man and also passed by without helping. But then a Samaritan came down the road. He felt sorry for the hurt man. He wrapped bandages around the man’s wounds, put him on his donkey, and took him to an inn. There, he cared for hurt man all night and paid the innkeeper to take care of him the next day.

Kaopan wasn’t surprised that the priest and Levite hadn’t stopped to help the hurt man. Why should they? They didn’t know him, and they were busy. But the Samaritan surprised him. He wondered, “Why would this man help even though he didn’t get anything back for himself?”

Kaopan finished kindergarten and began studying at the Adventist school that was located in the same building as the kindergarten. He heard the story about the Good Samaritan several more times. Every time, he was amazed that the Samaritan had helped even though he didn’t get anything back for himself.

Then one day, when he was 8, he saw a man asking for money at a gas station. Kaopan and his dad stopped at the gas station to fill up the car, and then they went inside the gas station’s store to buy something. As they were coming out, Kaopan saw the man sitting outside the door. The man’s clothes were torn and dirty. He didn’t say

anything to Kaopan. He was looking at a cardboard box on the ground in front of him. Inside the box were a few coins.

Kaopan remembered the story of the Good Samaritan. He thought, “The Good Samaritan helped the man even though

he didn’t get anything back for himself. I’ll give it a try. It might be a good decision, or it might be bad decision. Let’s find out.”

Turning to his dad, Kaopan asked, “Can I have some money? I want to give it to the poor man.”

“Sure,” Dad said and gave the boy a green paper bill. It was a 20-Thai baht banknote worth about 50 U.S. cents.

Kaopan put the money in the box.

The man in the torn, dirty clothes smiled. He had yellow, crooked teeth. Then he put his hands together to say, “Thank you.” In Thailand, people put their hands together to say thank you.

Kaopan replied by putting his own hands together. The man was older than him, and children show respect to older people in Thailand by putting their hands together.

Kaopan felt good. He had made the man happy, and now he also felt happy.

At that moment, he realized that he had made a good decision. In giving money to the man, he hadn’t expected anything in return. But he had gotten something back. He had seen the man’s happiness, and that happiness had made him happy. By blessing the man, he had received a blessing back.

Today, Kaopan is getting to graduate from Korat Adventist International School, where he learned about the Good Samaritan. He will always remember the Good Samaritan.

“There are people who need our help,” he said. “You can help them or not, but it’s good to help.”

Part of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped build Korat Adventist International School in Thailand several years ago. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter that will help other children in Asia also learn about God and the happiness that comes from helping others.

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – April 6th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 147:8; Psalm 104:20-21; Psalm 104:27-28; Psalm 147: 6; Isaiah 40: 26; Jeremiah 10:12 -13; Matthew 8:7–8; Matthew 8:13; Acts 17:28; Hebrews 1:2–3; Hebrews 4:3;

1. How does Jesus sustain the things that He created?

➤ Hebrews 1:2–3 —

➤ Jeremiah 10:12 -13 —

NOTES : “As regards this world, God's work of creation is completed. For “the works were finished from the foundation of the world.”[Hebrews 4:3] But His energy is still exerted in upholding the objects of His creation. It is not because the mechanism that has once been set in motion continues to act by its own inherent energy, that the pulse beats, and breath follows breath; but every breath, every pulsation of the heart is an evidence of the all-pervading care of Him in whom “we live, and move, and have our being.”[Acts 17: 28] It is not because of inherent power that year by year the earth produces her bounties, and continues her motion around the sun. The hand of God guides the planets, and keeps them in position in their orderly march through the heavens. He “brings out their host by number; He calls them all by names by the greatness of His might, for that He is strong in power; not one fails.”[Isaiah 40: 26] It is through His power that vegetation flourishes, that the leaves appear, and the flowers bloom. He “makes grass to grow upon the mountains,” and by Him the valleys are made fruitful. All the beasts of the field seek their meat from God, [Psalms 147:8; Psalm 104:20-21] and every living creature, from the smallest insect up to man, is daily dependent upon His providential care. In the beautiful words of the psalmist, “These wait all upon Thee. . . . That Thou gives them they gather; Thou opens Thine hand, they are filled with good.”[Psalm 104:27-28] His word controls the elements, He covers the heavens with clouds, and prepares rain for the earth. “He giveth snow like wool; He scatters the hoarfrost like ashes.” [Psalm 147:6] “When He utters His voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens, and He causes the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightnings with rain, and brings forth the wind out of His treasures.” [Jeremiah 10:13]”—Christian Education, page 195.

2. When the centurion came to Jesus, asking for healing for his servant, how did Jesus perform the miracle?

➤ Matthew 8:7–8 —

➤ Matthew 8:13 —

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sunday, April 6th, 2025

[Psalms 104:20-21]

- ☞ ²⁰ You make darkness, and it is night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep *forth*.
☞ ²¹ The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God.

[Psalms 104:27-28]

- ☞ ²⁷ These wait all upon You; that You may give *them* their meat in due season.
☞ ²⁸ *That* You give them they gather. You open Your hand, they are filled with good.

[Psalms 147:8]

- ☞ ⁸ Who covers the heaven with clouds, who prepares rain for the earth, who makes grass to grow upon the mountains.

[Psalms 147:6]

- ☞ ⁶ The LORD lifts up the meek: He casts the wicked down to the ground.

[Isaiah 40:26]

- ☞ ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who has created these *things*, that brings out their host by number: He calls them all by names by the greatness of His might, for that *He is* strong in power; not one fails.

[Jeremiah 10:12-13]

- ☞ ¹² He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, and has stretched out the heavens by His discretion.
☞ ¹³ When He utters His voice, *there is* a multitude of waters in the heavens, and He causes the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightnings with rain, and brings forth the wind out of His treasures.

[Matthew 8:7-8]

- ☞ ⁷ And Jesus said to him, ‘**I will come and heal him.**’
☞ ⁸ The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

[Matthew 8:13]

- ☞ ¹³ And Jesus said to the centurion, **Go your way; and as you have believed, so be it done to you.** And his servant was healed in the self-same hour.

[Acts 17:28]

- ☞ ²⁸ For in Him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also His offspring.

[Hebrews 1:1-3]

- ↪ ¹ God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,
- ² Has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed Heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds;
- ³ Who being the brightness of *His* glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by The Word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of The Majesty on High;

[Hebrews 4:3]

- ↪ ³ For we which have believed do enter into rest, as He said, As I have sworn in My wrath, if they shall enter into My rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, April 6th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 103

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 6th

Angel Guidance

And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goes down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.

Acts 8:26

God has recorded many narratives in His Inspired Word to teach us that the human family is the object of the special care of heavenly angels. Man is not left to become the sport of Satan’s temptations. All heaven is actively engaged in the work of communicating light to the inhabitants of the world, that they may not be left without spiritual guidance. An eye that never slumbers nor sleeps is guarding the camp of Israel. Ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of angels are ministering to the needs of the children of men. Voices inspired by God are crying, This is the way, walk ye in it. If men will hear the voice of warning, if they will trust to God’s guidance and not to finite judgment, they will be safe....

Heavenly angels watch those who are seeking for enlightenment, and cooperate with those who try to win souls to Christ. This is shown in the experience of Philip and the Ethiopian.

A heavenly messenger was sent to Philip to show him his work for the Ethiopian.... Angels of God were taking notice of this seeker for light.... Today, as then, angels are leading and guiding those who will be led and guided. The angel sent to Philip could himself have done the work for the Ethiopian, but this was not God’s way of working. As God’s instruments, men must work for others.

When God pointed out to Philip his work, the disciple did not say, as many are saying today, God does not mean that. I will not be too confident, or I shall make a mistake. Philip that day learned a lesson of conformity to God’s will that was worth everything to him. He learned that every soul is precious in the sight of God and that angels will bring light to those who are in need of it. Through the ministrations of angels God sends light to His people, and through His people this light is to be given to the world....

Faithful sentinels are on guard, to direct souls in right paths.

Daily Scripture

Sunday, April 6th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 39

What Is the Measure of My Days?

- Psa 39:1 **To the chief Musician, *even* to Jeduthun, A Psalm of David.** I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me.
- Psa 39:2 I was dumb with silence, I held my peace, *even* from good; and my sorrow was stirred.
- Psa 39:3 My heart was hot within me, while I was musing the fire burned: *then* spake I with my tongue,
- Psa 39:4 LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it *is*; *that* I may know how frail I *am*.
- Psa 39:5 Behold, thou hast made my days *as* an handbreadth; and mine age *is* as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state *is* altogether vanity. Selah.
- Psa 39:6 Surely every man walks in a vain shew: surely they are disquieted in vain: he heaps up *riches*, and knows not who shall gather them.
- Psa 39:7 And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope *is* in thee.
- Psa 39:8 Deliver me from all my transgressions: make me not the reproach of the foolish.
- Psa 39:9 I was dumb, I opened not my mouth; because thou didst *it*.
- Psa 39:10 Remove thy stroke away from me: I am consumed by the blow of thine hand.
- Psa 39:11 When thou with rebukes dost correct man for iniquity, thou make his beauty to consume away like a moth: surely every man *is* vanity. Selah.
- Psa 39:12 Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears: for I *am* a stranger with thee, *and* a sojourner, as all my fathers *were*.
- Psa 39:13 O spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go hence, and be no more.

Monday – April 7th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 8:5-13; Romans 10:17;

1. How did Jesus describe the faith of the centurion?

➤ **Matthew 8:10** —

NOTES : “In faith we are only like little children learning to walk. As a child takes its first steps, it often totters and falls; but it gets up again, and finally learns that it can walk alone. We must learn how to believe in God. We are not to look at our feelings, but to know God by living faith. Look at the centurion who came to Christ for an example of genuine faith. He came to Christ beseeching him, and saying, “Lord, my servant lies at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus said unto him, I will come and heal him. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou should come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goes; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.” [Matthew 8:6-10] What kind of power did this centurion think was vested in Jesus? He knew it was the power of God. He said, “I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goes.” [Matthew 8:9] The centurion saw with the eye of faith that the angels of God were all around Jesus, and that his word would commission an angel to go to the sufferer. He knew that his word would enter the chamber, and that his servant would be healed. And how Christ commended this man's faith! He exclaimed, “*I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.*” [Matthew 8:10]”—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, March 11th, 1890*

2. How does faith come?

➤ **Romans 10:17** —

NOTES : “This is the science of the gospel. The Scripture declares, “Without faith it is impossible to please God.” The knowledge of what the Scripture means when urging upon us the necessity of cultivating faith, is more essential than any other knowledge that can be acquired. We suffer much trouble and grief because of our unbelief, and our ignorance of how to exercise faith. We must break through the clouds of unbelief. We cannot have a healthy Christian experience, we cannot obey the gospel unto salvation, until the science of faith is better understood, and until more faith is exercised. There can be no perfection of Christian character without that faith that works by love, and purifies the soul.”—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, October 18th, 1898*

3. Heaven’s Hotline —



Lesson Scripture

Monday, April 7th, 2025

[Matthew 8:5-13]

- ↳ ⁵ And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came to Him a centurion, beseeching Him,
⁶ And saying, Lord, my servant lies at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.
⁷ And Jesus said to him, **I will come and heal him.**
⁸ The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof: but speak The Word only, and my servant shall be healed.
⁹ For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this *man*, Go, and he goes; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth *it*.
¹⁰ When Jesus heard *it*, He marvelled, and said to them that followed, **Truly I say to you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.**
¹¹ **And I say to you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.**
¹² **But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**
¹³ And Jesus said to the centurion, **Go your way; and as you have believed, so be it done to you.** And his servant was healed in the self-same hour.

[Romans 10:17]

- ↳ ¹⁷ So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by The Word of God.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, April 7th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 104

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 7th

The Act of Faith

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1

Faith is not the ground of our salvation, but it is the great blessing—the eye that sees, the ear that hears, the feet that run, the hand that grasps. It is the means, not the end. If Christ gave His life to save sinners, why shall I not take that blessing? My faith grasps it, and thus my faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen. Thus resting and believing, I have peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Faith, saving faith ... is the act of the soul by which the whole man is given over to the guardianship and control of Jesus Christ. He abides in Christ and Christ abides in the soul by faith as supreme. The believer commits his soul and body to God, and with assurance may say, Christ is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day. All who will do this will be saved unto life eternal. There will be an assurance that the soul is washed in the blood of Christ and clothed with His righteousness and precious in the sight of Jesus.

Remember that the exercise of faith is the one means of preserving it. Should you sit always in one position, without moving, your muscles would become strengthless and your limbs would lose the power of motion. The same is true in regard to your religious experience. You must have faith in the promises of God.... Faith will perfect itself in exercise and activity.

It is of the greatest importance to us that we surround the soul with the atmosphere of faith. Every day we are deciding our own eternal destiny in harmony with the atmosphere that surrounds the soul. We are individually accountable for the influence that we exert, and consequences that we do not see will result from our words and actions. If God would have saved Sodom for the sake of ten righteous persons, what would be the influence for good that might go out as the result of the faithfulness of the people of God if everyone who professed the name of Christ were also clothed with His righteousness?

Daily Scripture

Monday, April 7th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 40

My Help and My Deliverer

- Psa 40:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.** I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.
- Psa 40:2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, *and* established my goings.
- Psa 40:3 And he has put a new song in my mouth, *even* praise unto our God: many shall see *it*, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.
- Psa 40:4 Blessed *is* that man that makes the LORD his trust, and respects not the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.
- Psa 40:5 Many, O LORD my God, *are* thy wonderful works *which* thou hast done, and thy thoughts *which are* to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: *if* I would declare and speak *of them*, they are more than can be numbered.
- Psa 40:6 Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required.
- Psa 40:7 Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book *it is* written of me,
- Psa 40:8 I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law *is* within my heart.
- Psa 40:9 I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O LORD, thou knows.
- Psa 40:10 I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great congregation.
- Psa 40:11 Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O LORD: let thy lovingkindness and thy truth continually preserve me.
- Psa 40:12 For innumerable evils have compassed me about: mine iniquities have taken hold upon me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of mine head: therefore my heart fails me.
- Psa 40:13 Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me: O LORD, make haste to help me.
- Psa 40:14 Let them be ashamed and confounded together that seek after my soul to destroy it; let them be driven backward and put to shame that wish me evil.
- Psa 40:15 Let them be desolate for a reward of their shame that say unto me, Aha, aha.
- Psa 40:16 Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: let such as love thy salvation say continually, The LORD be magnified.
- Psa 40:17 But I *am* poor and needy; *yet* the Lord thinks upon me: thou *art* my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God.

Tuesday – April 8th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Hebrews 11:3; Philippians 2:13; 1 Thessalonians 2:13;

1. How may we understand that the Word of God has creative power?

➤ **Hebrews 11:3** —

NOTES : “No amount of reasoning or explanation can tell the whys and wherefores of the creation of the world. It is to be understood by faith in the great creative power. By faith we must believe in the mighty creative power of God through Jesus Christ. “Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear” [Hebrews 11:3] (“are now present to the eye”). This is a matter that can be stated, but mere reasoning will never convince one of the truth of the statement.” —*Southern Watchman, April 24th, 1902*

2. How will the Word of God work in those who have faith?

➤ **1 Thessalonians 2:13** —

NOTES : “There is a work that every one of us must do if we would be saved in the eternal world. But while we must on our part do what God has given us to do, we must realise that, having done all, we should come far short of salvation, did not the Lord on His part do that which finite, sinful man cannot do for himself. The religious life is wholly dependent upon the blending of both human and divine forces. Man is to work out his own salvation, but he cannot do this without divine aid; and although Christ has paid an infinite price to save the souls of men from everlasting ruin, He will not do that part of the work which was left for man to perform. We are to live by faith. We are not to be controlled by impulse and feeling, but the principles of God's law must be govern our lives. While we look to Jesus as the source of all power, we shall not fail to receive help in every time of need, “for it is God which works in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.” [Philippians 2:13]” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, October 30th, 1888*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, April 8th, 2025

[Hebrews 11:3]

↳ ³ Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by The Word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

[Philippians 2:13]

↳ ¹³ For it is God which works in you both to will and to do of *His* good pleasure.

[1 Thessalonians 2:13]

↳ ¹³ For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when you received The Word of God which you heard of us, you received *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, The Word of God, which effectually works also in you that believe.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, April 8th, 2025

*In Heavenly Places,
Chapter 4, p. 105*

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 8th

Faith Versus Sight

For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man sees, why doth he yet hope for?

Romans 8:24

Our Saviour asks the question, “*When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?*” (Luke 18:8), implying that true faith would be almost extinct. It is too true that the spirit of doubt, criticism, and fault-finding is destroying confidence in God’s Word and in His work. It is impossible for the carnal mind to understand or appreciate the work of God. All who desire to doubt or cavil will find occasion.... Those who in humility of heart follow the light as it shines upon them will receive clearer light, while those who refuse to obey till they can see all occasion for doubt removed, will be left in darkness.

God gives us sufficient evidence to enable us to accept the truth understandingly, but He does not propose to remove all occasion for doubt and unbelief. Should He do this, there would no longer be a necessity for the exercise of faith; for we would be able to walk by sight. All who with a teachable spirit study the Word of God may learn therefrom the way of salvation, yet they may not be able to understand every portion of the Sacred Record.... Whatever is clearly established by the Word of God we should accept, without attempting to meet every doubt which Satan may suggest, or with our finite understanding to fathom the counsels of the infinite One, or to criticize the manifestations of His grace or power....

If we seek in humility to learn the will of God as revealed in His Word, and then obey that will as it is made plain to our understanding, we shall become rooted and grounded in the truth. Said Christ: “*If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine*” (John 7:17)....

Let us draw nearer and nearer to the pure light of Heaven, remembering that divine illumination will increase according to our onward movements, qualifying us to meet new responsibilities and emergencies. The path of the just is progressive, from strength to strength, from grace to grace, and from glory to glory.

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, April 8th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 41

O Lord, Be Gracious to Me

- Psa 41:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.** Blessed *is* he that considers the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.
- Psa 41:2 The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive; *and* he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies.
- Psa 41:3 The LORD will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.
- Psa 41:4 I said, LORD, be merciful unto me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against thee.
- Psa 41:5 Mine enemies speak evil of me, When shall he die, and his name perish?
- Psa 41:6 And if he come to see *me*, he speaks vanity: his heart gathers iniquity to itself; *when* he goes abroad, he tells *it*.
- Psa 41:7 All that hate me whisper together against me: against me do they devise my hurt.
- Psa 41:8 An evil disease, *say they*, cleaves fast unto him: and *now* that he lies he shall rise up no more.
- Psa 41:9 Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, has lifted up *his* heel against me.
- Psa 41:10 But thou, O LORD, be merciful unto me, and raise me up, that I may requite them.
- Psa 41:11 By this I know that thou favour me, because mine enemy doth not triumph over me.
- Psa 41:12 And as for me, thou uphold me in mine integrity, and set me before thy face for ever.
- Psa 41:13 Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen.

Wednesday – April 9th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 5:48; John 15:4; Romans 12:3; Ephesians 3:20;

1. How many people have faith?

➤ **Romans 12:3** —

NOTES : “What is faith? It is simply taking God at his word; it is believing that God will do just as He has promised.”—*Signs of the Times, September 9th, 1889*

2. If we have faith in God's word, how much will His power achieve in our lives?

➤ **Ephesians 3:20** —

NOTES : “God's ideal for His children is higher than the highest human thought can reach. “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.” [Matthew 5:48] This command is a promise. The plan of redemption contemplates our complete recovery from the power of Satan. Christ always separates the contrite soul from sin. He came to destroy the works of the devil, and He has made provision that the Holy Spirit shall be imparted to every repentant soul, to keep him from sinning.”—*The Desire of Ages, page 311.*

“We can, we can, reveal the likeness of our divine Lord. We can know the science of spiritual life. We can honour our Maker. But do we do it? O, what an illustrious example we have in the life that Christ lived on this earth! He has shown us what we can accomplish through cooperation with divinity. We are to seek for the union of which He speaks when He says, “Abide in me, and I in you.” [John 15:4] This union is deeper, stronger, truer, than any other union, and is productive of all good. Those who are thus united to the Saviour are controlled by His will, and are moved by His love to suffer with those who suffer, to rejoice with those who rejoice, to feel a deep sympathy for everyone in weakness, sorrow, or distress. Higher than the highest human thought can reach is God's ideal for His children. He wants our minds to be clear, our tempers sweet, our love abounding. Then the peace that passes knowledge will flow from us to bless all with whom we come in contact. The atmosphere surrounding our souls will be refreshing. But how few there are who are making determined efforts to reach this ideal. Satan is trying to keep the people of God dwarfed, feeble, unChristlike. And too often he is successful.”—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, November 24th, 1904*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, April 9th, 2025

[Matthew 5:48]

↵ ⁴⁸ Be you therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

[John 15:4]

↵ ⁴ Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can you, except you abide in Me.

[Romans 12:3]

↵ ³ For I say, through the grace given to me, to every man that is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God has dealt to every man the measure of faith.

[Ephesians 3:20]

↵ ²⁰ Now to Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, April 9th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 106

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 9th

The Dangerous Seeds of Doubt

God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: has he said, and shall he not do it? or has he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

Numbers 23:19

Those who are perpetually talking doubts and demanding additional evidence to banish their cloud of unbelief do not build on the Word. Their faith rests on circumstances; it is founded in feeling. But feeling, be it ever so pleasing, is not faith. God’s Word is the foundation upon which our hopes of heaven must be built.

It is a great misfortune to be a chronic doubter, keeping the eye and thoughts on self. While you are beholding self, while this is the theme of thought and conversation, you cannot expect to be conformed to the image of Christ. Self is not your saviour. You have no redeeming qualities in yourself. “I” is a very leaky boat for your faith to embark in. Just as surely as you trust yourself in it, it will founder. The lifeboat, to the lifeboat! This is your only safety. Jesus is the captain of the lifeboat, and He has never lost a passenger.

We need a more heavenly atmosphere to surround our souls. We need to have our lips touched with a live coal from off the altar. We need to hear the word from Christ, “Be thou clean.” If we have scattered darkness, if we have accumulated rubbish and hoarded doubts, if we have planted seeds of doubt and discouragement in the minds of others, may God help us to see our sin. We cannot afford to drop a single word of doubt, for it will germinate and grow and bring forth a bitter harvest. We should take heed to the exhortation, “*Be ye holy in all manner of conversation.*” (1 Peter 1:15). One seed of doubt sown, and it is beyond the power of man to kill it. God alone can pluck it from the soul....

The great field of the promises of God has been presented before us, and by these we are to lay hold of faith, hope, and love. In these graces the church may shine forth and present to the world a living representation of the righteousness of Christ. Living faith grasps the hand of divine power, and faith is as an anchor to the soul, sure and steadfast.... John says, “*This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith.*” (1 John 5:4).

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, April 9th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 42

Why Are You Cast Down, O My Soul?

- Psa 42:1 **To the chief Musician, Maschil, for the sons of Korah.** As the hart pants after the water brooks, so pants my soul after thee, O God.
- Psa 42:2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?
- Psa 42:3 My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where *is* thy God?
- Psa 42:4 When I remember these *things*, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.
- Psa 42:5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and *why* art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him *for* the help of his countenance.
- Psa 42:6 O my God, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember thee from the land of Jordan, and of the Hermonites, from the hill Mizar.
- Psa 42:7 Deep calls unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me.
- Psa 42:8 *Yet* the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song *shall be* with me, *and* my prayer unto the God of my life.
- Psa 42:9 I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?
- Psa 42:10 *As* with a sword in my bones, mine enemies reproach me; while they say daily unto me, Where *is* thy God?
- Psa 42:11 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, *who is* the health of my countenance, and my God.

Thursday – April 10th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 6:33; Matthew 11:28-30; Galatians 2:20; Revelation 14:12;

1. What experience must be ours if we are to experience the power of God's word to save us from our sins?

➤ **Galatians 2: 20** —

NOTES : “You must die to self, be crucified to self, and become learners in the school of Christ. In words of tenderness the great Teacher invites you saying, “Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest to your souls, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” [Matthew 11:28-30] When you learn this lesson you will become true witnesses for Christ, but until you do learn this lesson, self with all its defects will appear and Jesus will be kept in the background. When you individually know that your work upon earth is to go forth and live over again in meekness and lowliness of heart the life of Christ, then you will become qualified to become Christ's witnesses. Everyone who would follow Christ truly, will be filled with sorrow and repentance when he realises that he has brought self to the front instead of Jesus.”—*Advance, March 1st, 1899*

2. How are God's saints characterised?

➤ **Revelation 14:12** —

NOTES : “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.” Often the follower of Christ is brought where he cannot serve God and carry forward his worldly enterprises. Perhaps it appears that obedience to some plain requirement of God will cut off his means of support. Satan would make him believe that he must sacrifice his conscientious convictions. But the only thing in our world upon which we can rely is the word of God. “Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” [Matthew 6:33] Even in this life it is not for our good to depart from the will of our Father in heaven. When we learn the power of His word, we shall not follow the suggestions of Satan in order to obtain food or to save our lives. Our only questions will be, What is God's command? and what [is] His promise? Knowing these, we shall obey the one, and trust the other.”—*Desire of Ages, page 121*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Thursday, April 10th, 2025

[Matthew 6:33]

↪ ³³ But seek you first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.

[Matthew 11:28-30]

↪ ²⁸ Come to Me, all *you* that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

²⁹ Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest to your souls.

³⁰ For My yoke *is* easy, and My burden is light.

[Galatians 2:20]

↪ ²⁰ I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of The Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.

[Revelation 14:12]

↪ ¹² Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, April 10th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 107

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 10th

We Expect Too Little

According to your faith be it unto you.

Matthew 9:29

Faith is the medium of connection between human weakness and divine power.... We must seek to have our faith strengthened. The iniquity that abounds must not for one moment lessen our faith and love for God or weaken our trust in His sure promises, else some mighty storm of temptation will sweep us away from the true foundation. We have a great work to do, and we need greater faith.... Through communion with God our faith will be strengthened, and the trial of our faith may prove our signal triumph.

There is a real work to be wrought in us. Constantly we must submit our will to God’s will, our way to God’s way.... By beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, we are actually changed into the same image, from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. We expect too little, and we receive according to our faith. We are not to cling to our own ways, our own plans, our own ideas.... Besetting sins are to be conquered and evil habits overcome. Wrong dispositions and feelings are to be rooted out, and holy tempers and emotions begotten in us by the Spirit of God....

Faith, living faith, we must have, a faith that works by love and purifies the soul. We must learn to take everything to the Lord with simplicity and earnest faith. The greatest burden we have to bear in this life is self. Unless we learn in the school of Christ to be meek and lowly, we shall miss precious opportunities and privileges for becoming acquainted with Jesus. Self is the most difficult thing we have to manage. In laying off burdens, let us not forget to lay self at the feet of Christ.

Hand yourself over to Jesus, to be moulded and fashioned by Him, that you may be made vessels unto honour. Your temptations, your ideas, your feelings, must all be laid at the foot of the cross. Then the soul is ready to listen to words of divine instruction. Jesus will give you to drink of the water which flows from the river of God. Under the softening and subduing influence of His Spirit your coldness and listlessness will disappear. Christ will be in you a well of water, springing up into everlasting life.

Daily Scripture

Thursday, April 10th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 43

Send Out Your Light and Your Truth

- Psa 43:1 Judge me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation: O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man.
- Psa 43:2 For thou *art* the God of my strength: why dost thou cast me off? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?
- Psa 43:3 O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.
- Psa 43:4 Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy: yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God my God.
- Psa 43:5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, *who is* the health of my countenance, and my God.

Preparation Day - April 11th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Genesis 32:26; John 5:24; Revelation 3:21;

1. What precious promise is given to those who obey God's word in faith?

➤ **John 5:24** —

NOTES : “In every command and in every promise of the word of God is the power, the very life of God, by which the command may be fulfilled and the promise realised. He who by faith receives the word is receiving the very life and character of God.”—*Christ's Object Lessons, page 38*

2. Who are the ones with whom Jesus promises to share His throne?

➤ **Revelation 3:21** —

NOTES : “We can overcome. Yes; fully, entirely. Jesus died to make a way of escape for us, that we might overcome every evil temper, every sin, every temptation, and sit down at last with Him. It is our privilege to have faith and salvation. The power of God has not decreased. His power, I saw, would be just as freely bestowed now as formerly. It is the church of God that have lost their faith to claim, their energy to wrestle, as did Jacob, crying: “*I will not let Thee go, except Thou bless me.*” [Genesis 32:26] Enduring faith has been dying away. It must be revived in the hearts of God's people. There must be a claiming of the blessing of God. Faith, living faith, always bears upward to God and glory; unbelief, downward to darkness and death.”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 144*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, April 11th, 2025

[Genesis 32:26]

☞ ²⁶ And He said, Let Me go, for the day breaks. And he said, I will not let You go, except You bless me.

[John 5:24]

☞ ²⁴ Truly, Truly, I say to you, He that hears My Word, and believes on Him that sent Me, has everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death to life.

[Revelation 3:21]

☞ ²¹ To him that overcomes will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, April 11th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 108

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 11th

The Faith That Avails

And Jesus said, Somebody has touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.

Luke 8:46

There are two kinds of connection between the branches and the vine. The one is deceptive, superficial.

The crowd pressing upon Christ had no living union with Him by genuine faith. But a poor woman who had been many years a great sufferer and had spent all her living upon physicians but was made no better, but rather worse, thought if she could get within reach of Him, if she could only touch the hem of His garment, she would be made whole. Christ understood all that was in her heart, and He placed Himself where she could have the opportunity she desired. He would use that act to distinguish the touch of genuine faith from the casual contact of those who were crowding about Him...

When the woman reached forth her hand and touched the hem of His garment, she thought this stealthy touch would not be known by anyone; but Christ recognized that touch and responded to her faith by His healing power. She realized in a moment that she was made whole, and the Lord Jesus would not let such faith pass unnoticed. He turned Him about quickly and said, “*Who touched me?*” All the disciples were pressing close around Him, and Peter said, “*The multitude throng thee and press thee, and say thou, Who touched me? And Jesus said, **Somebody has touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.***” (Luke 8:45, 46).

When the woman saw that she was not hid she came tremblingly and cast herself at His feet, telling the whole story. For twelve years she had been afflicted, but as soon as her finger touched the hem of His garment she was made whole. Jesus said to her, “*Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith has made you whole; go in peace.*” (Luke 8:48) The mere touch of faith brought its reward.

The faith which avails to bring us in vital contact with Christ expresses on our part supreme preference, perfect reliance, entire consecration.... It works in the life of the follower of Christ true obedience to God’s commandments, for love to God and love to man will be the result of vital connection with Christ.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, April 11th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 44

Come to Our Help

- Psa 44:1 **To the chief Musician for the sons of Korah, Maschil.** We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, *what* work thou didst in their days, in the times of old.
- Psa 44:2 *How* thou didst drive out the heathen with thy hand, and planted them; *how* thou didst afflict the people, and cast them out.
- Psa 44:3 For they got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them: but thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance, because thou had a favour unto them.
- Psa 44:4 Thou art my King, O God: command deliverances for Jacob.
- Psa 44:5 Through thee will we push down our enemies: through thy name will we tread them under that rise up against us.
- Psa 44:6 For I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my sword save me.
- Psa 44:7 But thou hast saved us from our enemies, and hast put them to shame that hated us.
- Psa 44:8 In God we boast all the day long, and praise thy name for ever. Selah.
- Psa 44:9 But thou hast cast off, and put us to shame; and goes not forth with our armies.
- Psa 44:10 Thou makes us to turn back from the enemy: and they which hate us spoil for themselves.
- Psa 44:11 Thou hast given us like sheep *appointed* for meat; and hast scattered us among the heathen.
- Psa 44:12 Thou sell thy people for nought, and dost not increase *thy wealth* by their price.
- Psa 44:13 Thou make us a reproach to our neighbours, a scorn and a derision to them that are round about us.
- Psa 44:14 Thou make us a byword among the heathen, a shaking of the head among the people.
- Psa 44:15 My confusion *is* continually before me, and the shame of my face has covered me,
- Psa 44:16 For the voice of him that reproaches and blasphemes; by reason of the enemy and avenger.
- Psa 44:17 All this is come upon us; yet have we not forgotten thee, neither have we dealt falsely in thy covenant.
- Psa 44:18 Our heart is not turned back, neither have our steps declined from thy way;
- Psa 44:19 Though thou hast sore broken us in the place of dragons, and covered us with the shadow of death.
- Psa 44:20 If we have forgotten the name of our God, or stretched out our hands to a strange god;
- Psa 44:21 Shall not God search this out? for he knows the secrets of the heart.
- Psa 44:22 Yea, for thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are counted as sheep for the slaughter.
- Psa 44:23 Awake, why sleep thou, O Lord? arise, cast *us* not off for ever.
- Psa 44:24 Wherefore hide thou thy face, *and* forget our affliction and our oppression?
- Psa 44:25 For our soul is bowed down to the dust: our belly cleaves unto the earth.
- Psa 44:26 Arise for our help, and redeem us for thy mercies' sake.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, April 11th, 2025



Editor’s note: Today’s mission story is about a man in Thailand whose life was touched by two Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings that were collected 27 years apart.

Surachet [SOO-RA-chet] arrived at a Seventh-day Adventist high school in Thailand with a promise. He told himself, “I’ll stay in the dorm, but I’ll never change my religion.”

Surachet had been raised in a non-Christian world religion. The majority of Thailand’s population belonged to the same religion. He chose the school because it had a dormitory for students who were far from home. He lived more than 600 miles (1,000 kilometers) away in northern Thailand.

At the Adventist school, Surachet was fascinated by world civilization class. In Bible class, he was astonished to hear a prophecy about the rise and fall of major world civilizations in the book of Daniel. He wondered, “How do I harmonize the information about world civilizations that I’m hearing in these two classes?”

Around the same time, he noticed headlines in newspapers about the 1967 Six-Day War, which had recently ended with Israel defeating neighboring Arab countries. He wondered how Israel, a small country established in 1948, could defeat larger and much older neighbors. He wondered about the origin of the Jewish people.

“Is this the same Israel as in the Bible that we are studying in Bible class?” he thought.

He searched for more information and found a book about the Jewish people written by a Thai philosopher. The author, who like Surachet wasn’t a Christian, recorded Israel’s history over several thousand years.

Surachet thought about his own family’s religion and wondered, “Is the God of Israel the true God?”

Reading the Bible, he learned that the God of Israel had pleaded with His people thousands of years ago not to bow down to images of stone and wood. Surachet’s religion bowed down to images of stone and wood.

He learned that the Bible taught that the God of Israel was the only living God not formed by human hands. Jeremiah 10:10 says, “But the Lord is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King” (NKJV).

Surachet signed up for Bible lessons from the Voice of Prophecy. At the time, the Voice of Prophecy had a flourishing presence in Thailand after receiving a building in Thailand’s capital, Bangkok, with the help of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering several years earlier in 1961. Surachet finished the Bible studies in just a week and decided to give his heart to the true and living God.

His father was furious when Surachet asked for permission to be baptized. “If you want to be a Christian, go to the Christians,” he said. “You don’t have to come back home.”

Surachet said he would come back if his life didn’t improve under the living God. Surachet has no regrets. He went on to earn bachelor’s and master’s degrees in theology and a doctorate in missiology. He has worked as a pastor, communication director for the Adventist Church in Thailand, and regional director for Adventist World Radio. His desire is to teach others about the living God. Today, he is teaching at Asia-Pacific International University, whose campus in Thailand was built with the help of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering in 1988.

He tells his students that Christianity entered Thailand more than 200 years ago and the Adventist Church arrived when a literature evangelist began to sell books in 1906. But despite a more than 100-year presence, the church’s membership is no more than 16,000 people, or only 0.02 percent of Thailand’s population of 71 million.

“This is one of the most difficult countries in the world,” Surachet said. “In some places, Satan is doing his work through resistance and opposition. But here, Christianity is welcome but cultural belief in satanic agencies is strong. We are not fighting against flesh and blood. We are fighting with evil spirits. We are fighting with Satan himself. We need more workers in Thailand.”

Thank you for your faithful Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings that have had a major impact on the lives of people like Surachet Insom. Asia-Pacific International University, where Surachet teaches, has provided a Christian education to thousands of students since a 1988 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped build its campus. Every year, students from non-Christian homes are baptized at the university. The Voice of Prophecy building, which opened in Bangkok with the help of a 1961 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, has since been demolished. But other church buildings have taken its place, and its influence continues to reverberate through the lives of Surachet and others. Thank you for planning a generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering on June 28 that, with God’s help, will also have a long-lasting impact.

By Andrew McChesney

LESSON 3

“THESE THREE ARE ONE”

April 12 — April 18

MEMORY VERSE : “*For there are three that bear record in heaven, The Father, The Word, and The Holy Ghost: and these three are One.*” [1 John 5:7]

STUDY HELP : ✓ Evangelism, pages 613 - 617

INTRODUCTION : “In the great closing work we shall meet with perplexities that we know not how to deal with; but let us not forget that the three great Powers of heaven are working, that a divine hand is on the wheel, and that God will bring His promises to pass. He will gather from the world a people who will serve Him in righteousness.” *Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 8, p. 254*

Sabbath – April 12th

LESSON SCRIPTURE : Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 4:6; 1 Timothy 2:5; James 2:19;

1. In contrast with the idolatry of the nations around, what fundamental truth did Moses declare to Israel?

➤ Deuteronomy 6:4 —

NOTE : “The people of Israel had been taken out of idolatry, to become the depositories of sacred, ever-living truth. The knowledge of the one true God was given to them. They were greatly blessed with divine revelations, enshrouded in symbols and ceremonies, until type met antitype in the death of Christ. Everything in both their private and their public life was connected with a revealed religion. The law of God was given by Christ, and specified so plainly the duties of private, social, and public life, that none needed to err. One God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, was brought to view in the fourth commandment, and His will was to be their will. Those who worshiped the one true God were strengthened in moral power, and developed strong and symmetrical characters, while those who worshiped other gods grew more and more debased, because they exalted human passions and sanctioned vice in their religious services.”—*Signs of the Times, August 12th, 1889.*

2. How did Paul repeat this truth?

➤ 1 Corinthians 8:6 —

➤ Ephesians 4:6 —

➤ 1 Timothy 2:5 —

NOTE: To be intelligently convinced is not enough. The apostle James writes: “You believe that there is one God; you do well: the devils also believe, and tremble.” [James 2:19] Many there are who believe that Christ has died for the sins of the world, but they make no appropriation of this grand truth to their own souls. Their

hearts are not enlisted in the service of God, their lives are not reformed. They are not sanctified by the truth they profess to believe.”—*Youth's Instructor, March 1st, 1900.*

3. Heaven's Hotline



Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, April 12th, 2025

[Deuteronomy 6:4]

↳ ⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:

[1 Corinthians 8:6]

↳ ⁶ But to us *there is but* one God, The Father, of whom *are* all things, and we in Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom *are* all things, and we by Him.

[Ephesians 4:6]

↳ ⁶ One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.

[1 Timothy 2:5]

↳ ⁵ For *there is* one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

[James 2:19]

↳ ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God; you do well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

Evangelism

Chapter 18, pages 613-617

A Work of Many Features

And many are doing the same thing today, in 1897, because they have not had experience in the testing messages comprehended in the first, second, and third angel's messages. There are those who are searching the Scriptures for proof that these messages are still in the future. They gather together the truthfulness of the messages, but they fail to give them their proper place in prophetic history. Therefore such are in danger of misleading the people in regard to locating the messages. They do not see and understand the time of the end, or when to locate the messages. The day of God is coming with stealthy tread, but the supposed wise and great men are prating about "higher education." They know not the signs of Christ's coming, or of the end of the world.—*Manuscript 136, 1897.*

Misrepresentations of the Godhead

Let People Know Our Position.—Our policy is, Do not make prominent the objectionable features of our faith, which strike most decidedly against the practices and customs of the people, until the Lord shall give the people a fair chance to know that we are believers in Christ, that we do believe in the divinity of Christ, and in His pre-existence.—*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 253. (1895)*

We Shall Have to Meet Erroneous Teaching.—Again and again we shall be called to meet the influence of men who are studying sciences of satanic origin, through which Satan is working to make a nonentity of God and of Christ. The Father and the Son each have a personality. Christ declared, "I and My Father are one." Yet it was the Son of God who came to the world in human form. Laying aside His royal robe and kingly crown, He clothed His divinity with humanity, that humanity through His infinite sacrifice might become partakers of the divine nature, and escape the corruption that is in the world through lust.—*Testimonies for the Church, vol. 9, p. 68. (1909)*

Positive Truth Versus Spiritualistic Representations. —I am instructed to say, The sentiments of those who are searching for advanced scientific ideas are not to be trusted. Such representations as the following are made: "The Father is as the light invisible: the Son is as the light embodied; the Spirit is the light shed abroad." "The Father is like the dew, invisible vapour; the Son is like the dew gathered in beauteous form; the Spirit is like the dew fallen to the seat of life." Another representation: "The Father is like the invisible vapour; the Son is like the leaden cloud; the Spirit is rain fallen and working in refreshing power."

All these spiritualistic representations are simply nothingness. They are imperfect, untrue. They weaken and diminish the Majesty which no earthly likeness can be compared to. God cannot be compared with the things His hands have made. These are mere earthly things, suffering under the curse of God because of the sins of man. The Father cannot be described by the things of earth. The Father is all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, and is invisible to mortal sight.

The Son is all the fullness of the Godhead manifested. The Word of God declares Him to be "the express image of His person." "God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Here is shown the personality of the Father.

The Comforter that Christ promised to send after He ascended to heaven, is the Spirit in all the fullness of the Godhead, making manifest the power of divine grace to all who receive and believe in Christ as a personal Saviour. There are three living persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers —The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized, and these powers will co-operate with the obedient subjects of heaven in their efforts to live the new life in Christ.—*Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 7, pp. 62, 63. (1905)*

The Pre-existent, Self-existent Son of God.—Christ is the pre-existent, self-existent Son of God.... In speaking of his pre-existence, Christ carries the mind back through dateless ages. He assures us that there never was a time when He was not in close fellowship with the eternal God. He to whose voice the Jews were then listening had been with God as one brought up with Him.—*Signs of the Times, Aug. 29, 1900.*

He was equal with God, infinite and omnipotent. . . . He is the eternal, self-existent Son.—*Manuscript 101, 1897.*

From Everlasting.—While God's Word speaks of the humanity of Christ when upon this earth, it also speaks decidedly regarding His pre-existence. The Word existed as a divine being, even as the eternal Son of God, in union and oneness with His Father. From everlasting He was the Mediator of the covenant, the one in whom all nations of the earth, both Jews and Gentiles, if they accepted Him, were to be blessed. "The Word was with God, and the Word was God." Before men or angels were created, the Word was with God, and was God.—*Review and Herald, April 5, 1906.*

Christ shows them that, although they might reckon His life to be less than fifty years, yet His divine life could not be reckoned by human computation. The existence of Christ before His incarnation is not measured by figures.—*Signs of the Times, May 3, 1899.*

Life, Original, Unborrowed, Underived.—Jesus declared, "I am the resurrection, and the life." In Christ is life, original, unborrowed, underived. "He that has the Son has life." The divinity of Christ is the believer's assurance of eternal life.—*The Desire of Ages, p. 530 (1898)*

With the Father at Sinai.—When they [Israel] came to Sinai, He took occasion to refresh their minds in regard to His requirements. Christ and the Father, standing side by side upon the mount, with solemn majesty proclaimed the Ten Commandments.—*Historical Sketches, p. 231. (1866)*

The Eternal Dignitaries of the Trinity.—The eternal heavenly dignitaries—God, and Christ, and the Holy Spirit—arming them [the disciples] with more than mortal energy, . . . would advance with them to the work and convince the world of sin.—*Manuscript 145, 1901.*

Personality of the Holy Spirit.—We need to realize that the Holy Spirit, who is as much a person as God is a person, is walking through these grounds.—*Manuscript 66, 1899. (From a talk to the students at the Avondale School.)*

The Holy Spirit is a person, for He bears witness with our spirits that we are the children of God. When this witness is borne, it carries with it its own evidence. At such times we believe and are sure that we are the children of God. . . .

The Holy Spirit has a personality, else He could not bear witness to our spirits and with our spirits that we are the children of God. He must also be a divine person, else He could not search out the secrets which lie hidden in the mind of God. "For what man knows the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knows no man, but the Spirit of God."—*Manuscript 20, 1906.*

The Power of God in the Third Person.—The prince of the power of evil can only be held in check by the power of God in the third person of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit.—*Special Testimonies, Series A, No. 10, p. 37. (1897)*

In Co-operation With the Three Highest Powers.—We are to co-operate with the three highest powers in heaven,—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, — and these powers will work through us, making us workers together with God.—*Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 7, p. 51. (1905)*

Secret Societies

The Perils of the Secret Societies.—The Lord's injunction, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers," refers not only to the marriage of Christians with the ungodly, but to all alliances in which the parties are brought into intimate association, and in which there is need of harmony in spirit and action. . . .

The Lord declares through the prophet Isaiah: "Associate yourselves, O ye people, and ye shall be broken in pieces; and give ear, all ye of far countries: gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces; gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces. Take counsel together, and it shall come to nought; speak the word, and it shall not stand: for God is with us. For the Lord spake thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people, saying, Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid. Sanctify the Lord of hosts Himself; and let Him be your fear, and let Him be your dread." [Isaiah 8:9-13]

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, April 12th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 109

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 12th

A Working Faith

And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.

Philippians 3:9

It is one thing to read and teach the Bible, and another thing to have by practice its life-giving, sanctifying principles engrafted on the soul.... “*By grace are ye saved through faith*” (Ephesians 2:8). The mind should be educated to exercise faith rather than to cherish doubt, suspicion, and jealousy. We are too prone to regard obstacles as impossibilities. To have faith in the promises of God, to go forward by faith, pressing on without being governed by circumstances, is a lesson hard to learn. Yet it is a positive necessity that every child of God should learn this lesson. The grace of God through Christ is ever to be cherished, for it is given us as the only way of approaching God....

The faith mentioned in God’s Word calls for a life in which faith in Christ is an active, living principle. It is God’s will that faith in Christ shall be made perfect by works; He connects the salvation and eternal life of those who believe, with these works, and through them provides for the light of truth to go to all countries and peoples. This is the fruit of the workings of God’s Spirit.

We show our faith in God by obeying His commands. Faith is always expressed in words and actions. It produces practical results, for it is a vital element in the life. The life that is moulded by faith develops a determination to advance, to go forward, following in the footsteps of Christ.

We have been taken as rough stones out of the quarry of the world by the cleaver of truth and placed in the workshop of God. He who has genuine faith in Christ as his personal Saviour will find that the truth accomplishes a definite work for him. His faith is a working faith.... We cannot create our faith, but we can be co-laborers with Christ in promoting the growth and triumph of faith.

The faith that works by love and purifies the soul produces the fruit of humility, patience, forbearance, long-suffering, peace, joy, and willing obedience.

Daily Scripture

Sabbath, April 12th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 45

Your Throne, O God, Is Forever

- Psa 45:1 **To the chief Musician upon Shoshannim, for the sons of Korah, Maschil, A Song of loves.** My heart is indicting a good matter: I speak of the things which I have made touching the king: my tongue *is* the pen of a ready writer.
- Psa 45:2 Thou art fairer than the children of men: grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God has blessed thee for ever.
- Psa 45:3 Gird thy sword upon *thy* thigh, O *most* mighty, with thy glory and thy majesty.
- Psa 45:4 And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness *and* righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach you terrible things.
- Psa 45:5 Thine arrows *are* sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; *whereby* the people fall under thee.
- Psa 45:6 Thy throne, O God, *is* for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom *is* a right sceptre.
- Psa 45:7 Thou love righteousness, and hate wickedness: therefore God, thy God, has anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.
- Psa 45:8 All thy garments *smell* of myrrh, and aloes, *and* cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.
- Psa 45:9 Kings' daughters *were* among thy honourable women: upon thy right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir.
- Psa 45:10 Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house;
- Psa 45:11 So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he *is* thy Lord; and worship thou him.
- Psa 45:12 And the daughter of Tyre *shall be there* with a gift; *even* the rich among the people shall entreat thy favour.
- Psa 45:13 The king's daughter *is* all glorious within: her clothing *is* of wrought gold.
- Psa 45:14 She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework: the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee.
- Psa 45:15 With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall enter into the king's palace.
- Psa 45:16 Instead of thy fathers shall be thy children, whom thou may make princes in all the earth.
- Psa 45:17 I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations: therefore shall the people praise thee for ever and ever.

Children’s Mission Story

Sabbath, April 12th, 2025



Penny lives with her mom in Korat, Thailand. Her mom and dad don’t live together. Penny always wanted to see her dad. She wondered what he looked like. She wondered what he was like.

Then one of her friends asked, “Where’s your dad?”

“I don’t know,” said Penny, who was 8. “Why don’t you know?” her friend said. “I don’t know,” Penny said.

“Go and ask your mom,” the friend said. “OK.”

Penny went to her mom. “Where’s my dad?” she asked.

Mom paused for a long moment. “He’s far, far away from here,” she said.

“Then where is he?” Penny said. “Far, far away,” Mom said.

Penny sensed that Mom didn’t want to talk about Dad, so she said, “Never mind.” She decided to ask Mom later.

Two years passed. When Penny was 10, she asked Mom again. She wasn’t planning to ask, but she had been thinking about Dad for two years, and it just happened one afternoon.

It started when Mom asked Penny to do her homework. Penny didn’t want to do her homework because she planned to do it in the morning. So, she made an upset face. Mom didn’t like the upset face.

“Stop doing that,” Mom said.

Penny didn’t say anything, but she kept making the upset face.

“If you don’t stop, I won’t talk to you,” Mom said.

Penny didn't want that.

“Sorry,” she said.

“It's OK,” Mom said.

“Next time I'll listen to you,” Penny said.

“OK,” Mom said.

But inside, Penny still felt upset about being told to do her homework. So, she blurted out, “Where's my dad?”

Mom looked surprised, but she answered right away. “Dad is in Bangkok,” she said. “I'll try to get his email, and we'll see if he answers.”

With a bright smile, Penny ran off to do her homework. She was happy because she was sure that she would finally see her dad. But as she began her homework, a worrisome thought crossed her mind. *What if Dad doesn't get the email? What if he doesn't answer?*

Then Penny remembered that she had learned at school that she could talk to the God of heaven about anything and He would answer. She bowed her head and closed her eyes.

“Dear God, please find my dad,” she prayed. “I want to see him.”

The next afternoon, Mom said that Dad had sent an email that said he would come to watch Penny take part in a big school event called Sports Day.

Penny smiled widely.

“I'm really happy!” she exclaimed.

Mom also smiled. “I'm happy, too,” she said.

“I can't wait for Sports Day!” Penny said.

But she had to wait a whole week for Sports Day. Every day that week, she prayed, “Dear God, please help me to see my dad.”

Dad came to Sports Day, and Penny ran over to greet him. “Hi, my name is Penny,” she said. “It's nice to meet you.”

She gave him a gift that she had made—a small box that she had folded from brown paper.

Dad came to Sports Day, and Penny ran over to greet him. “Hi, my name is Penny,” she said. “It's nice to meet you.”

She gave him a gift that she had made—a small box that she had folded from brown paper.

“Hi,” Dad said. “I'm your dad.”

Dad watched while Penny played games of “Capture the Flag” and “Chair Ball” with her classmates. Then the two ate lunch together. Penny ate a school lunch of noodles, and Dad ate noodles that he had brought with him. Penny gave Dad some of her noodles, and Dad gave Penny some of his noodles. Then Dad gave Penny his telephone number.

“I miss you all the time,” he said.

“I miss you, too,” Penny said.

“I love you all the time,” Dad said. “I'll come to visit you again.”

Now Penny talks with her dad every day on the phone.

She also talks with God every day on her knees. She tells God, “Thank You for letting me see my dad.”

Penny studies at Korat Adventist International School in Thailand, where many children, like her, come from families who have not heard about God.

Part of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering several years ago helped build the school. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter that will help other children in Asia learn about God.

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – April 13th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 89:26; Psalm 103:13; Jeremiah 3:22; Malachi 2:10; Matthew 6:6; Matthew 6:9; Luke 10:12; John 16:24;

1. By what name did Jesus Himself address God and teach us to address God?

- **Luke 10:12** —
- **Matthew 6:6** —
- **Matthew 6:9** —

NOTES : “Every saint who comes to God with a true heart, and sends his honest petitions to Him in faith, will have his prayers answered. Your faith must not let go of the promises of God, if you do not see or feel the immediate answer to your prayers. Be not afraid to trust God. Rely upon His sure promise: “Ask, and ye shall receive.” [John 16:24] God is too wise to err, and too good to withhold any good thing from His saints that walk uprightly. Man is erring, and although his petitions are sent up from an honest heart, he does not always ask for the things that are good for himself, or that will glorify God. When this is so, our wise and good Father hears our prayers, and will answer, sometimes immediately; but He gives us the things that are for our best good and His own glory. God gives us blessings; if we could look into His plan, we would clearly see that He knows what is best for us and that our prayers are answered. Nothing hurtful is given, but the blessing we need, in the place of something we asked for that would not be good for us, but to our hurt.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 120*

2. How did David address God when he prayed to Him?

- **Psalm 89:26** —
- **Malachi 2:10** —

NOTES : “Have you fallen into sin? Then without delay seek God for mercy and pardon. When David was convicted of his sin, he poured out his soul in penitence and humiliation before God. He felt that he could endure the loss of his crown, but he could not be deprived of the favour of God. Mercy is still extended to the sinner. The Lord is calling to us in all our wanderings: “Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings.” [Jeremiah 3:22] The blessing of God may be ours if we will heed the pleading voice of His Spirit. “Like as a father pities his children, so the Lord pities them that fear Him.” [Psalm 103:13]”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 177*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

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Lesson Scripture

Sunday, April 13th, 2025

[Psalms 89:26]

☞ ²⁶ He shall cry unto Me, You *are* my Father, my God, and The Rock of my salvation.

[Psalms 103:13]

☞ ¹³ Like as a father pities *his* children, *so* The LORD pities them that fear Him.

[Jeremiah 3:22]

☞ ²² **Return, you backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings.** Behold, we come unto You; for You *are* The LORD our God.

[Malachi 2:10]

☞ ¹⁰ Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

[Matthew 6:6]

☞ ⁶ **But you, when you pray, enter into your closet, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father which is in secret; and your Father which sees in secret shall reward you openly.**

[Matthew 6:9]

☞ ⁹ **After this manner therefore pray you: Our Father which are in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.**

[Luke 10:12]

☞ ¹² **But I say unto you, that it shall be more tolerable in that day for Sodom, than for that city.**

[John 16:24]

☞ ²⁴ **Hitherto have you asked nothing in My name: ask, and you shall receive, that your joy may be full.**

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, April 13th, 2025

*In Heavenly Places,
Chapter 4, p. 110*

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 13th

How Faith Works

For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision avails anything, nor uncircumcision; but faith which works by love.

Galatians 5:6

Christ has shown His great love for us by giving His life that we should not perish in our sins, that He might clothe us with His salvation. If this divine love is cherished in our hearts, it cements and strengthens our union with those of like faith. “He that dwells in love dwells in God, and God in him” (1 John 4:16). The strengthening of our love for our brethren and sisters strengthens our love for Christ. This principle of love for God and for those for whom Christ died, needs to be quickened by the Holy Spirit and cemented with brotherly kindness, tenderness; it needs to be strengthened by acts which testify that God is love. This union, which joins heart with heart, is not the result of sentimentalism, but the working of a healthful principle. Faith works by love, and purifies the soul from all selfishness. Thus the soul is perfected in love. And having found grace and mercy through Christ’s precious blood, how can we fail to be tender and merciful? ...

Faith in Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, the One who pardons our sins and transgressions, the One who is able to keep us from sin and lead us in His footsteps, is set forth in the fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah. Here are presented the fruits of a faith that works by love and purifies the soul from selfishness. Faith and works are here combined.

“Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou see the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy rereward.... And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

Daily Scripture

Sunday, April 13th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 46

God Is Our Fortress

- Psa 46:1 **To the chief Musician for the sons of Korah, A Song upon Alamoth.** God *is* our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- Psa 46:2 Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;
- Psa 46:3 *Though* the waters thereof roar *and* be troubled, *though* the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.
- Psa 46:4 *There is* a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy *place* of the tabernacles of the most High.
- Psa 46:5 God *is* in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, *and that* right early.
- Psa 46:6 The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted.
- Psa 46:7 The LORD of hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah.
- Psa 46:8 Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he has made in the earth.
- Psa 46:9 He makes wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and cuts the spear in sunder; he burns the chariot in the fire.
- Psa 46:10 **Be still, and know that I *am* God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.**
- Psa 46:11 The LORD of hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah.

Monday – April 14th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : John 1:12; John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Colossians 3:1-2;

1. In what special way may we become the children of God?

➤ **John 1:12** —

NOTES : “Wonderful possibilities are provided for everyone who has faith in Christ. No walls are built to keep any living soul from salvation. The predestination, or election, of which God speaks, includes all who will accept Christ as a personal Saviour, who will return to their loyalty, to perfect obedience to all God’s commandments. This is the effectual salvation of a peculiar people, chosen by God from among men. All who are willing to be saved by Christ are the elect of God. It is the obedient who are predestinated from the foundation of the world. “To as many as received him, to them he gave power to become the sons of God, even to as many as believed on him.”[John 1:12] ” —*Gospel Herald, June 11th, 1902*

2. In what especial way did God express His love for the whole world?

➤ **John 3:16** —

➤ **Romans 5:8** —

NOTES : “Oh, educate the soul to believe the promises of God. Would He make such promises if He did not love us? We are His purchased property; bought at an infinite price. Would you know the manner of love that has been bestowed upon you? I point you to the cross of Calvary. “For God so loved the world, that He gave his only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” [John 3:16] Christ died in behalf of the world. Our Heavenly Father has valued us at the price of Jesus, and, having been bought at such a cost, what right have we to spend our God-given capabilities in the service of the world and sin? What right have we to fritter away our time, to use our talents in aiding the work of the powers of darkness? “Where Christ sits on the right hand of God. Set your affections on things above,” [Colossians 3:1-2]”—*Signs of the Times, January 1st, 1893.*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Monday, April 14th, 2025

[John 1:12]

↪ ¹² But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on His name:

[John 3:16]

↪ ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

[Romans 5:8]

↪ ⁸ But God commends His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

[Colossians 3:1-2]

↪ ¹ If you then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sits on the right hand of God.
² Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, April 14th, 2025

*In Heavenly Places,
Chapter 4, p. 111*

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 14th

Trust Yourself With God

But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.

2 Thessalonians 3:3

How many there are who go through life under a cloud of condemnation! They do not believe God’s word. They have no faith that He will do as He has said. Many who long to see others resting in the pardoning love of Christ do not rest in it for themselves. But how can they possibly lead others to show simple, childlike faith in the heavenly Father when they measure His love by their feelings?

Let us trust God’s word implicitly, remembering that we are His sons and daughters. Let us train ourselves to believe His word. We hurt the heart of Christ by doubting, when He has given such evidence of His love. He laid down His life to save us. He says to us: *“Come unto me, ... and I will give you rest....”* Do you believe He will do as He has said? Then, after you have complied with the conditions, carry no longer the burden of your sins. Let it roll upon the Saviour. Trust yourself with Him. Has He not promised to give you rest? But to many He is obliged to say sorrowfully, *“Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.”* (John 5:40).

Behold Christ. Dwell upon His love and mercy. This will fill the soul with abhorrence for all that is sinful and will inspire it with an intense desire for the righteousness of Christ. The more clearly we see the Saviour, the more clearly shall we discern our defects of character. Confess your sins to Christ, and with true contrition of soul cooperate with Him by putting these sins away. Believe that they are pardoned. The promise is positive, *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”* (1 John 1:9). Be assured that the word of God will not fail. He who has promised is faithful. It is as much your duty to believe that God will fulfill His word and forgive you as it is to confess your sins....

Look steadfastly to Jesus. Behold Him, full of grace and truth. He will make His goodness pass before you while He hides you in the cleft of the rock. You will be enabled to endure the seeing of Him who is invisible, and by beholding you will be transformed.

Daily Scripture

Monday, April 14th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 47

God Is King over All the Earth

- Psa 47:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.** O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.
- Psa 47:2 For the LORD most high *is* terrible; *he is* a great King over all the earth.
- Psa 47:3 He shall subdue the people under us, and the nations under our feet.
- Psa 47:4 He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom he loved. Selah.
- Psa 47:5 God is gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
- Psa 47:6 Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises unto our King, sing praises.
- Psa 47:7 For God *is* the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.
- Psa 47:8 God reigns over the heathen: God sits upon the throne of his holiness.
- Psa 47:9 The princes of the people are gathered together, *even* the people of the God of Abraham: for the shields of the earth *belong* unto God: he is greatly exalted.

Tuesday – April 15th

 LESSON SCRIPTURE : John 1:1; John 1:14; John 20:28;

1. How does the Bible show that Jesus is truly God?

➤ John 1:1—

➤ John 1:14 —

NOTES : “The world's Redeemer was equal with God. His authority was as the authority of God. He declared that he had no existence separate from the Father. The authority by which He spoke, and wrought miracles, was expressly His own, yet He assures us that He and the Father are one.” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, January 7th 1890*

“The Lord Jesus made the world. “All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.” Yet He who made all things, He who was equal with the Father, one with God, who was in the express image of His person and character, left the glory which He had with the Father before the world was, clothed His divinity with humanity, and came into our world in order that humanity might touch divinity, and divinity sanctify humanity. He came that the fallen sons and daughters of Adam might be recovered from the effects of Adam's transgression and fall, and, through His divine, uplifting power, become sons and daughters of God.” —*Signs of the Times, March 28th, 1895*

2. With what words did Thomas acknowledge Jesus?

➤ John 20:28 —

NOTES : “Jesus, in his treatment of Thomas, gave His followers a lesson regarding the manner in which they should treat those who have doubts upon religious truth, and who make those doubts prominent. He did not overwhelm Thomas with words of reproach, nor did He enter into a controversy with him; but, with marked condescension and tenderness, He revealed Himself unto the doubting one. Thomas had taken a most unreasonable position, in dictating the only conditions of his faith; but Jesus, by His generous love and consideration, broke down all the barriers he had raised. Persistent controversy will seldom weaken unbelief, but rather put it upon self-defence, where it will find new support and excuse. Jesus, revealed in His love and mercy as the crucified Saviour, will wring from many once unwilling lips the acknowledgement of Thomas, “My Lord, and my God.” [John 20:28]” —*Spirit of Prophecy Volume 3, page 222*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, April 15th, 2025

[John 1:1]

↪ ¹ In the beginning was The Word, and The Word was with God, and The Word was God.

[John 1:14]

↪ ¹⁴ And The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of The Father,) full of grace and truth.

[John 20:28]

↪ ²⁸ And Thomas answered and said unto Him, My Lord and my God.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, April 15th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 112

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 15th

A Test of Faith

By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

Hebrews 11:8

God selected Abraham as His messenger through whom to communicate light to the world. The word of God came to him, not with the presentation of flattering prospects in this life of large salary, of great appreciation and worldly honour. “Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father’s house, unto a land that I will shew thee” (Genesis 12:1), was the divine message to Abraham. The patriarch obeyed.... He forsook his country, his home, his relatives, and all pleasant associations connected with his early life, to become a pilgrim and a stranger.

Abraham ... might have reasoned and questioned the purposes of God in this. But he showed that he had perfect confidence that God was leading him; he did not question whether it was a fertile, pleasant country or whether or not he should have ease. He went at God’s bidding. This is a lesson to every one of us....

There are those who may be in favourable positions ... in all the things of this life, but God may have a work for them to do elsewhere, a work that they could not do among their relatives and friends. The very position of ease and the relatives who surround them may prevent them from developing the very traits of character which God would have them develop. But God sees that to change their position and to send them where their surroundings will be entirely different will be the very best place for them to develop a character which will glorify Him....

When we set ourselves where all is convenience and ease, we do not feel so much the necessity of depending moment by moment upon God. God in His providence brings us into positions where we shall feel our necessity of His help and strength....

It is stated of Abraham that he looked for a city whose builder and maker is God.... So with every one of us. We are only pilgrims and strangers in this world. We are seeking the city which Abraham looked for, whose builder and maker is God.

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, April 15th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 48

Zion, the City of Our God

- Psa 48:1 **A Song and Psalm for the sons of Korah.** Great *is* the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, *in* the mountain of his holiness.
- Psa 48:2 Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, *is* mount Zion, *on* the sides of the north, the city of the great King.
- Psa 48:3 God is known in her palaces for a refuge.
- Psa 48:4 For, lo, the kings were assembled, they passed by together.
- Psa 48:5 They saw *it*, *and* so they marvelled; they were troubled, *and* hastened away.
- Psa 48:6 Fear took hold upon them there, *and* pain, as of a woman in travail.
- Psa 48:7 Thou break the ships of Tarshish with an east wind.
- Psa 48:8 As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God: God will establish it for ever. Selah.
- Psa 48:9 We have thought of thy lovingkindness, O God, in the midst of thy temple.
- Psa 48:10 According to thy name, O God, *so is* thy praise unto the ends of the earth: thy right hand is full of righteousness.
- Psa 48:11 Let mount Zion rejoice, let the daughters of Judah be glad, because of thy judgments.
- Psa 48:12 Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof.
- Psa 48:13 Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces; that ye may tell *it* to the generation following.
- Psa 48:14 For this God *is* our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide *even* unto death.

Wednesday – April 16th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : John 14:16–17; John 14:26; John 16:7–14; Romans 8:35–39;

1. How does Paul express the extent of Christ's love for us?

➤ **Romans 8:35–39**

NOTES : “In the courts above, Christ is pleading for His church, pleading for those for whom He has paid the redemption price of His blood. Centuries, ages, can never lessen the efficacy of His atoning sacrifice. Neither life nor death, height nor depth, can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus; not because we hold Him so firmly, but because He holds us so fast. If our salvation depended on our own efforts, we could not be saved; but it depends on the One who is behind all the promises. Our grasp on Him may seem feeble, but His love is that of an elder brother; so long as we maintain our union with Him, no one can pluck us out of His hand.” —*Acts of the Apostles, page 552*

2. Who did Christ appoint to take His place in ministering to the needs of His people and what was to be His work?

➤ **John 14:16–17** —

➤ **John 14:26** —

➤ **John 16:7–14** —

NOTES : “Why do we not hunger and thirst for the gift of the Spirit? Why do we not talk of it, pray for it, and preach concerning it? The Lord is more willing to give the Holy Spirit to those who serve Him than parents are to give good gifts to their children. For the daily baptism of the Spirit, every worker should offer his petition to God. Companies of Christian workers should gather to ask for special help, for heavenly wisdom, that they may know how to plan and execute wisely. Especially should they pray that God will baptise His chosen ambassadors in mission fields with a rich measure of His Spirit. The presence of the Spirit with God's workers will give the proclamation of truth a power that not all the honour or glory of the world could give. With the consecrated worker for God, in whatever place he may be, the Holy Spirit abides. The words spoken to the disciples are spoken also to us. The Comforter is ours as well as theirs. The Spirit furnishes the strength that sustains striving, wrestling souls in every emergency, amidst the hatred of the world, and the realisation of their own failures and mistakes. In sorrow and affliction, when the outlook seems dark and the future perplexing, and we feel helpless and alone, these are the times when, in answer to the prayer of faith, the Holy Spirit brings comfort to the heart.” —*Acts of the Apostles, page 50 - 51*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, April 16th, 2025

[John 14:16-17]

- ☞ ¹⁶ And I will pray The Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever;
- ¹⁷ *Even* The Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it sees Him not, neither knows Him: but you know Him; for He dwells with you, and shall be in you.

[John 14:26]

- ☞ ²⁶ But The Comforter, *which is* The Holy Ghost, whom The Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

[John 16:7-14]

- ☞ ⁷ Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, The Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you.
- ⁸ And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:
- ⁹ Of sin, because they believe not on Me;
- ¹⁰ Of righteousness, because I go to My Father, and you see Me no more;
- ¹¹ Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.
- ¹² I have yet many things to say unto you, but you cannot bear them now.
- ¹³ Howbeit when He, The Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, *that* shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come.
- ¹⁴ He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall shew *it* unto you.

[Romans 8:35-39]

- ☞ ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
- ³⁶ As it is written, For your sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.
- ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us.
- ³⁸ For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
- ³⁹ Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, April 16th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 113

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 16th

Shun Needless Worry

Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Matthew 6:25

While you do your best, weary not your body and mind with the cares of this life. Do not spoil your religious experience by worry, but trust the Lord to work for you and to do for you what you cannot do for yourself. The life is more than meat....

There is much needless worrying, much trouble of mind, over things that cannot be helped. The Lord would have His children put their trust fully in Him. Our Lord is a just and righteous God; His children should acknowledge His goodness and His justice in the large and small things of life. Those who cherish the spirit of worry and complaint are refusing to recognize His guiding hand.

Needless anxiety is a foolish thing, and it hinders us from standing in a true position before God. When the Holy Spirit comes into the soul, there will be no desire to complain and murmur because we do not have everything we want. Rather, we will thank God from a full heart for the blessings that we have....

There is one blessing that all may have who seek for it in the right way. It is the Holy Spirit of God, and this is a blessing that brings all other blessings in its train. If we will come to God as little children, asking for His grace and power and salvation, not for our own uplifting, but that we may bring blessing to those around us, our petitions will not be denied. Then let us study the Word of God that we may know how to take hold of His promises and claim them as our own. Then we shall be happy....

Christ came to earth and gave His life that we might have eternal salvation. He wants to encircle each of us with the atmosphere of heaven, that we may give to the world an example that will honour the religion of Christ.... In this life we are to be controlled by the spirit that rules in the heavenly courts. Righteousness and truth are to go before us. And the glory of the Lord will be the reward of all who serve Him acceptably. They obtain Christ's righteousness.

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, April 16th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 49

Why Should I Fear in Times of Trouble?

- Psa 49:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.** Hear this, all *ye* people; give ear, all *ye* inhabitants of the world:
- Psa 49:2 Both low and high, rich and poor, together.
- Psa 49:3 My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart *shall be* of understanding.
- Psa 49:4 I will incline mine ear to a parable: I will open my dark saying upon the harp.
- Psa 49:5 Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil, *when* the iniquity of my heels shall compass me about?
- Psa 49:6 They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches;
- Psa 49:7 None *of them* can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him:
- Psa 49:8 (For the redemption of their soul *is* precious, and it ceases for ever:)
- Psa 49:9 That he should still live for ever, *and* not see corruption.
- Psa 49:10 For he sees *that* wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others.
- Psa 49:11 Their inward thought *is, that* their houses *shall continue* for ever, *and* their dwelling places to all generations; they call *their* lands after their own names.
- Psa 49:12 Nevertheless man *being* in honour abides not: he is like the beasts *that* perish.
- Psa 49:13 This their way *is* their folly: yet their posterity approve their sayings. Selah.
- Psa 49:14 Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them; and the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; and their beauty shall consume in the grave from their dwelling.
- Psa 49:15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me. Selah.
- Psa 49:16 Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased;
- Psa 49:17 For when he dies he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him.
- Psa 49:18 Though while he lived he blessed his soul: and *men* will praise thee, when thou do well to thyself.
- Psa 49:19 He shall go to the generation of his fathers; they shall never see light.
- Psa 49:20 Man *that is* in honour, and understands not, is like the beasts *that* perish.

Thursday – April 17th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : John 14:26; John 15:26; John 16:13–14; Acts 13:2; Romans 8:26; 1 John 5:7;

1. How do the following verses show that the Holy Spirit is not merely a force or influence?

➤ **John 14:26** —

➤ **John 15:26** —

➤ **John 16:13–14** —

➤ **Acts 13:2** —

➤ **Romans 8:26** —

NOTES : “The power of evil had been strengthening for centuries, and the submission of men to this satanic captivity was amazing. Sin could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency of the Third Person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fullness of divine power. It is the Spirit that makes effectual what has been wrought out by the world's Redeemer. It is by the Spirit that the heart is made pure. Through the Spirit the believer becomes a partaker of the divine nature. Christ has given His Spirit as a divine power to overcome all hereditary and cultivated tendencies to evil, and to impress His own character upon His church. Of the Spirit Jesus said, “He shall glorify Me.” [John 16:14] The Saviour came to glorify the Father by the demonstration of His love; so the Spirit was to glorify Christ by revealing His grace to the world.”
—*The Desire of Ages*, page 671

“Christ determined that when he ascended from this earth, he would bestow a gift on those who had believed on him, and those who should believe on him. What gift could he bestow rich enough to signalise and grace his ascension to the mediatorial throne? It must be worthy of his greatness and his royalty. He determined to give his representative, the third Person of the Godhead. This gift could not be excelled.” —*Southern Watchman*, November 28th, 190

2. How does the Bible express the truth of the three Persons of the Godhead?

➤ **1 John 5:7** —

NOTES : “There are three living Persons of the heavenly Trio; in the name of these three great Powers, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, those who receive Christ by living faith are baptised, and these powers will co-operate with the obedient subjects of heaven in their efforts to live the new life in Christ.” —*Evangelism*, page 615

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Thursday, April 17th, 2025

[John 14:26]

☞ ²⁶ But The Comforter, *which is* The Holy Ghost, whom The Father will send in My name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

[John 15:26]

☞ ²⁶ But when The Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from The Father, *even* The Spirit of Truth, which proceeds from The Father, He shall testify of Me:

[John 16:13-14]

☞ ¹³ Howbeit when He, The Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, *that* shall He speak: and He will show you things to come.
¹⁴ He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall show *it* unto you.

[Acts 13:2]

☞ ² As they ministered to The Lord, and fasted, The Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

[Romans 8:26]

☞ ²⁶ Likewise The Spirit also helps our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but The Spirit itself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

[1 John 5:7]

☞ ⁷ For there are three that bear record in heaven, The Father, The Word, and The Holy Ghost: and these three are One.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, April 17th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 114

April 17th

God Cares for You

Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are ye not much better than they?

Matthew 6:26

As we look upon the lofty trees waving with fresh, green foliage, and the earth covered with its green velvet carpet, and the flowers and shrubs springing from the earth, we should remember that all these beauties of nature have been used by Christ in teaching His grand lessons of truth. As we look upon the fields of waving grain, and listen to the merry songsters in their leafy homes, and view the boats upon the water of the lake, we should remember the words of Christ upon the lakeside, in the groves, and on the mountains, and the lessons there taught by Him should be repeated to us by the similar objects of nature which surround us.

He made use of the lofty trees, the cultivated soil, the barren rocks, the flowers of beauty struggling through the clefts, the everlasting hills, the glowing flowers of the valley, the birds carolling their songs in the leafy branches, the spotless lily resting in purity upon the bosom of the water. All these objects that made up the living scene around them were made the medium by which His lessons were impressed upon the minds of His hearers. They were thus brought home to the hearts of all, ... leading them gently up from the contemplation of the Creator's works in nature to nature's God...

In one of His most impressive lessons Christ says, “Behold the fowls of the air; for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them....”

The Great Teacher is here leading out minds to understand the parental care and love which God has for His children. He directs them to observe the birds flitting from tree to tree, or skimming upon the bosom of the lake, without a flutter of distrust or fear. God's eye is upon these little creatures; He provides them food; He answers all their simple wants. Jesus inquires, “Are ye not much better than they?” ...

If God cares for and preserves the little birds, will He not have far greater love and care for the creatures formed in His image?

Daily Scripture

Thursday, April 17th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 50

God Himself Is Judge

- Psa 50:1 **A Psalm of Asaph.** The mighty God, *even* the LORD, has spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof.
- Psa 50:2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God has shined.
- Psa 50:3 Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him.
- Psa 50:4 He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people.
- Psa 50:5 Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.
- Psa 50:6 And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God *is* judge himself. Selah.
- Psa 50:7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, and I will testify against thee: *I am* God, *even* thy God.
- Psa 50:8 I will not reprove thee for thy sacrifices or thy burnt offerings, *to have been* continually before me.
- Psa 50:9 I will take no bullock out of thy house, *nor* he goats out of thy folds.
- Psa 50:10 For every beast of the forest *is* mine, *and* the cattle upon a thousand hills.
- Psa 50:11 I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field *are* mine.
- Psa 50:12 If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world *is* mine, and the fullness thereof.
- Psa 50:13 Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats?
- Psa 50:14 Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:
- Psa 50:15 And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.
- Psa 50:16 But unto the wicked God says, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or *that* thou should take my covenant in thy mouth?
- Psa 50:17 Seeing thou hate instruction, and cast my words behind thee.
- Psa 50:18 When thou saw a thief, then thou consented with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers.
- Psa 50:19 Thou give thy mouth to evil, and thy tongue frames deceit.
- Psa 50:20 Thou sit *and* speak against thy brother; thou slander thine own mother's son.
- Psa 50:21 These *things* hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thought that I was altogether *such an one* as thyself: *but* I will reprove thee, and set *them* in order before thine eyes.
- Psa 50:22 Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear *you* in pieces, and *there be* none to deliver.
- Psa 50:23 Whoso offers praise glorifies me: and to him that orders *his* conversation *aright* will I shew the salvation of God.

Preparation Day – April 18th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Genesis 1:1–2; Genesis 1:26; Job 26:13; John 1:1–3; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Colossians 1:13–16; 1 Peter 1:2; Jude 1:20-21;

1. How did the three Persons of the Godhead co-operate together in creation?

- **Genesis 1:1–2** —
- **Genesis 1:26** —
- **Job 26:13** —
- **John 1:1–3** —
- **Colossians 1:13–16** —

2. How do the three Persons of the Godhead co-operate in our salvation?

- **1 Peter 1:2** —
- **2 Corinthians 13:14** —
- **Jude 20-21** —

NOTES : “The Godhead was stirred with pity for the race, and the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit gave Themselves to the working out of the plan of redemption. In order fully to carry out this plan, it was decided that Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, should give Himself an offering for sin. What line can measure the depth of this love? God would make it impossible for man to say that He could have done more. With Christ He gave all the resources of heaven, that nothing might be wanting in the plan for man's uplifting. Here is love, the contemplation of which should fill the soul with inexpressible gratitude! Oh, what love, what matchless love! The contemplation of this love will cleanse the soul from all selfishness. It will lead the disciple to deny self, take up the cross, and follow the Redeemer.”—*Counsels on Health, page 222*

“Our sanctification is the work of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is the fulfilment of the covenant that God has made with those who bind themselves up with Him, to stand with Him, with His Son, and with His Spirit in holy fellowship. Have you been born again? Have you become a new being in Christ Jesus? Then co-operate with the three great Powers of heaven who are working in your behalf. Doing this you will reveal to the world the principles of righteousness.”—*Signs of the Times, June 19th, 1901*

3. Heaven's Hotline

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Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, April 18th, 2025

[Genesis 1:1-2]

- ↪ ¹ In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
- ↪ ² And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

[Genesis 1:26]

- ↪ ²⁶ And God said, *Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.*

[Job 26:13]

- ↪ ¹³ By His spirit He has garnished the heavens; His hand has formed the crooked serpent.

[John 1:1-3]

- ↪ ¹ In the beginning was The Word, and The Word was with God, and The Word was God.
- ↪ ² The same was in the beginning with God.
- ↪ ³ All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made.

[2 Corinthians 13:14]

- ↪ ¹⁴ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, *be* with you all. Amen. *The second epistle to the Corinthians was written from Philippi, a city of Macedonia, by Titus and Lucas.*

[Colossians 1:13-16]

- ↪ ¹³ Who has delivered us from the power of darkness, and has translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:
- ↪ ¹⁴ In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:
- ↪ ¹⁵ Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:
- ↪ ¹⁶ For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

[1 Peter 1:2]

- ↪ ² Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

[Jude 1:20-21]

- ↪ ²⁰ But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,
- ↪ ²¹ Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, April 18th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 115

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 18th

Expressions of God’s Love

And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Matthew 6:28, 29

The courtly robes of the greatest king that ever sat upon an earthly throne could not compare, in their artificial splendour, with the spotless beauty of the lilies fashioned by the divine hand. This is an example of the estimate which the Creator of all that is beautiful places upon the artificial in comparison with the natural.

God has given us these things of beauty as an expression of His love, that we may obtain correct views of His character. We are not to worship the things of nature, but in them we are to read the love of God. Nature is an open book, from the study of which we may gain a knowledge of the Creator and be attracted to Him by the things of use and beauty which He has provided....

“Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?” (verses 30, 31). Much unnecessary care and anxiety is felt in regard to our future, concerning what we shall eat and drink and wherewithal we shall be clothed. The labour and worry of needless display in apparel causes much fatigue and unhappiness and shortens our lives. Our Saviour would not only have us discern the love of God displayed in the beautiful flowers about us, but He would have us learn from them lessons of simplicity and of perfect faith and confidence in our heavenly Father.

If God cares to make these inanimate things so beautiful, that will be cut down and perish in a day, how much more careful will He be to supply the needs of His obedient children, whose lives may be as enduring as eternity. How readily will He give them the adornment of His grace, the strength of wisdom, the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit. The love of God to man is incomprehensible, broad as the world, high as heaven, and as enduring as eternity.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, April 18th, 2025

Psalm

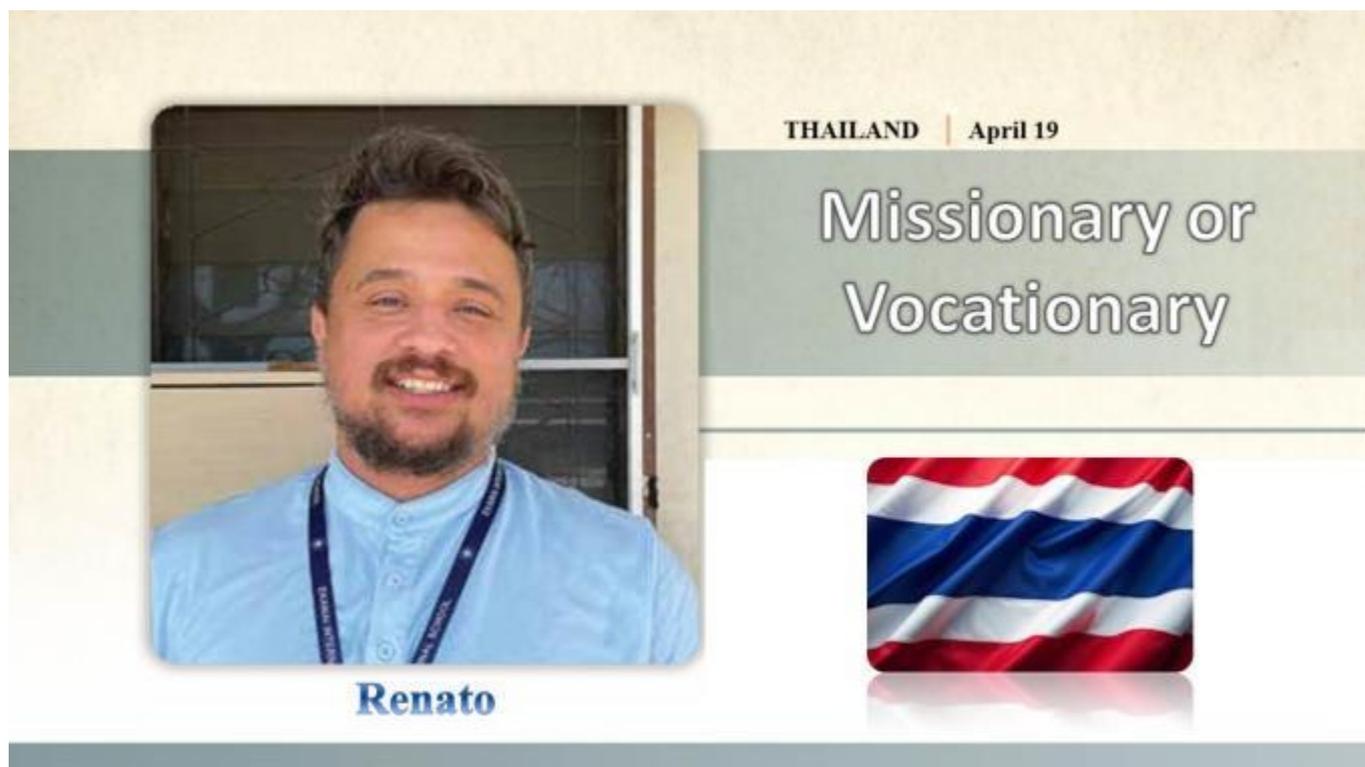
Chapter 51

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

- Psa 51:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.** Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.
- Psa 51:2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.
- Psa 51:3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin *is* ever before me.
- Psa 51:4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done *this* evil in thy sight: that thou might be justified when thou speak, *and* be clear when thou judge.
- Psa 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.
- Psa 51:6 Behold, thou desire truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden *part* thou shalt make me to know wisdom.
- Psa 51:7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- Psa 51:8 Make me to hear joy and gladness; *that* the bones *which* thou hast broken may rejoice.
- Psa 51:9 Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.
- Psa 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.
- Psa 51:11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.
- Psa 51:12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me *with thy* free spirit.
- Psa 51:13 *Then* will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.
- Psa 51:14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: *and* my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.
- Psa 51:15 O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
- Psa 51:16 For thou desire not sacrifice; else would I give *it*: thou delight not in burnt offering.
- Psa 51:17 The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.
- Psa 51:18 Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.
- Psa 51:19 Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, April 18th, 2025



Renato stretched in the lobby of his apartment building as he got ready for an early morning run in Bangkok, Thailand. The 36-year-old Seventh-day Adventist volunteer had arrived a day earlier to serve as a missionary teacher at an Adventist school.

An elderly woman walked up to him and asked, bluntly, “Who are you?”

“A new teacher,” Renato said. “Where are you from?” “Brazil.”

“You are far from home. Will you teach at the school?”

“Yes.”

“Then from this day, you will be my son. I will take care of you.”

The next day was Sabbath, and the woman introduced Renato to her husband at church. “So, you are my new son,” the man said.

“Don’t worry about your house or your food. Just do your best at work, and we will take care of you.”

For the next two weeks, the elderly couple invited Renato over to their apartment every day. “Come here, and have tea with us,” the woman said.

“Let’s hear what you have in mind for the next day,” the man said. “Do you need anything?”

On the fifteenth day, the man asked Renato a new question, saying, “Did you come to Thailand to be a missionary or a vacationary?” Renato didn’t know what to say. He didn’t reply.

The man asked the question again. “I need you to think,” he said. “Did you come here to be a missionary or a vacationary?”

Renato understood what he wanted to know. Thailand is a wonderful place. Not only does it have beautiful beaches in the south, but it also is known as “the land of smiles.” Visitors are treated very well. Missionaries could be distracted by opportunities for fun. Renato couldn’t answer the man.

On the sixteenth day, a Sabbath, Renato went to church and greeted the elderly couple, whom he now saw as his adopted parents. He wanted to chat, but he didn’t have time. First, he had to participate in the church worship service. Then he was leading a potluck for a young adult group. After that, he planned to go home for a nap at 3:30 p.m. He was exhausted.

While taking the nap, Renato got a phone call. It was the daughter of his adopted parents.

“Please pray for Dad,” she said. “He isn’t feeling well.”

Renato left the apartment in his pajamas. He saw two ambulances come and go. Then he heard the news that his adopted father had died. It was all so sudden. He wondered, “What will happen next? What will happen to Mom?”

Renato had a heart-to-heart talk with God during the funeral. “Give me strength to answer the question that my adopted father gave me,” he prayed. “Did I come here to be a missionary or a vacationary?”

After the funeral, Renato made a promise to his adopted mom. “I came here to be a missionary and not a vacationary,” he said. He knew that it was a decision made through trauma. But it was the trauma that had given him the strength to make the decision. He wished he had made the decision much earlier.

After resolving to be a missionary, everything seemed to fall in place. Before, Renato had wondered if he was starting mission work late in life. He was 36, and many mission volunteers were in their twenties. He had wondered, “Why did I start now?” He also had been confused when people asked, “How long will you serve as a volunteer?” He had not been able to answer. When he had arrived in Thailand, he hadn’t been sure if he was a missionary or a vacationary. But not anymore. Now he would be a missionary in Thailand and anywhere God sent him.

“Even if I leave Thailand, I pray that God keeps me connected to Adventist Volunteer Service or any other ministry that will allow me to serve as a missionary and not a vacationary,” he said.

Pray for missionaries like Renato at Ekamai International School in Bangkok, Thailand, as they proclaim Jesus’ soon coming. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter that will help spread the gospel in the Southern Asia-Pacific Division, which includes Thailand.

By Andrew McChesney

LESSON 4

“MADE LIKE UNTO HIS BRETHREN”

April 19 — April 25

📖 MEMORY VERSE : *“Wherefore in all things it behoved Him to be made like unto His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people, for in that He suffered, being tempted, He is able to succour them that are tempted.” [Hebrews 2:17–18]*

? STUDY HELP : ✓ Selected Messages, Book 1, pages 246 - 251

🗨 INTRODUCTION : “Christ in the weakness of humanity was to meet the temptations of one possessing the powers of the higher nature that God had bestowed on the angelic family. But Christ's humanity was united with divinity, and in this strength He would bear all the temptations that Satan could bring against Him, and yet keep His soul untainted by sin. And this power to overcome He would give to every son and daughter of Adam who would accept by faith the righteous attributes of His character.” —*Selected Messages, Book 1, page 223*

“Christ's overcoming and obedience is that of a true human being. In our conclusions, we make many mistakes because of our erroneous views of the human nature of our Lord. When we give to His human nature a power that it is not possible for man to have in his conflicts with Satan, we destroy the completeness of His humanity.” —*Selected Messages, Book 3, page 139*

Sabbath – April 19th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Exodus 3:5; John 1:14;

1. In what words did John describe the coming of the Saviour?

➤ John 1:14 —

NOTE : “The humanity of the Son of God is everything to us. It is the golden chain that binds our souls to Christ and through Christ to God. This is to be our study. Christ was a real man; He gave proof of His humility in becoming a man. Yet He was God in the flesh. When we approach this subject, we would do well to heed the words spoken by Christ to Moses at the burning bush, “Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou stand is holy ground.” [Exodus 3:5] We should come to this study with the humility of a learner, with a contrite heart. And the study of the incarnation of Christ is a fruitful field, which will repay the searcher who digs deep for hidden truth.” —*Selected Messages, Book 1, page 244*

2. Heaven's Hotline



Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, April 19th, 2025

[Exodus 3:5]

- ↪ ⁵ And He said, Draw not nigh hither: put off your shoes from off your feet, for the place whereon you stand *is* holy ground.

[John 1:14]

- ↪ ¹⁴ And The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of The Father,) full of grace and truth.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

E. G. W. Study Help

Sabbath, April 19th, 2025

Selected Messages, Book 1 Chapter 34, p. 246-251

“The Word Made Flesh”

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not." "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth" (John 1:1-5, 14).

This chapter delineates the character and importance of the work of Christ. As one who understands his subject, John ascribes all power to Christ, and speaks of His greatness and majesty. He flashes forth divine rays of precious truth, as light from the sun. He presents Christ as the only Mediator between God and humanity.

The doctrine of the incarnation of Christ in human flesh is a mystery, "even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations" (Colossians 1:26). It is the great and profound mystery of godliness. "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). Christ took upon Himself human nature, a nature inferior to His heavenly nature. Nothing so shows the wonderful condescension of God as this. He "so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son" (John 3:16). John presents this wonderful subject with such simplicity that all may grasp the ideas set forth, and be enlightened.

Christ did not make believe take human nature; He did verily take it. He did in reality possess human nature. "As the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same" (Hebrews 2:14). He was the son of Mary; He was of the seed of David according to human descent. He is declared to be a man, even the Man Christ Jesus. "This man," writes Paul, "was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house" (Hebrews 3:3).

Christ's Pre-existence

But while God's Word speaks of the humanity of Christ when upon this earth, it also speaks decidedly regarding His pre-existence. The Word existed as a divine being, even as the eternal Son of God, in union and oneness with His Father. From everlasting He was the Mediator of the covenant, the one in whom all nations of the earth, both Jews and Gentiles, if they accepted Him, were to be blessed. "The Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1). Before men or angels were created, the Word was with God, and was God.

The world was made by Him, "and without him was not anything made that was made" (John 1:3). If Christ made all things, He existed before all things. The words spoken in regard to this are so decisive that no one need be left in doubt. Christ was God essentially, and in the highest sense. He was with God from all eternity, God over all, blessed forevermore.

The Lord Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God, existed from eternity, a distinct person, yet one with the Father. He was the surpassing glory of heaven. He was the commander of the heavenly intelligences, and the adoring homage of the angels was received by Him as His right. This was no robbery of God. "The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way," He declares, "before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: while as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth" (Proverbs 8:22-27).

There are light and glory in the truth that Christ was one with the Father before the foundation of the world was laid. This is the light shining in a dark place, making it resplendent with divine, original glory. This truth, infinitely mysterious in itself, explains other mysterious and otherwise unexplainable truths, while it is enshrined in light, unapproachable and incomprehensible.

"Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God" (Psalm 90:2). "The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up" (Matthew 4:16). Here the pre-existence of Christ and the purpose of His manifestation to our world are presented as living beams of light from the eternal throne. "Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops: he hath laid siege against us: they shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek. But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting" (Micah 5:1, 2).

"We preach Christ crucified," declared Paul, "unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God" (1 Corinthians 1:23, 24).

A Mystery

That God should thus be manifest in the flesh is indeed a mystery; and without the help of the Holy Spirit we cannot hope to comprehend this subject. The most humbling lesson that man has to learn is the nothingness of human wisdom, and the folly of trying, by his own unaided efforts, to find out God. He may exert his intellectual powers to the utmost, he may have what the world calls a superior education, yet he may still be ignorant in God's eyes. The ancient philosophers boasted of their wisdom; but how did it weigh in the scale with God? Solomon had great learning; but his wisdom was foolishness; for he did not know how to stand in moral independence, free from sin, in the strength of a character moulded after the divine similitude. Solomon has told us the result of his research, his painstaking efforts, his persevering inquiry. He pronounces his wisdom altogether vanity.

By wisdom the world knew not God. Their estimation of the divine character, their imperfect knowledge of His attributes, did not enlarge and expand their mental conception. Their minds were not ennobled in conformity to the divine will, but they plunged into the grossest idolatry. "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things" (Romans 1:22, 23). This is the worth of all requirements and knowledge apart from Christ.

"I am the way, the truth, and the life," Christ declares: "no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). Christ is invested with power to give life to all creatures. "As the living Father hath sent me," He says, "and I live by the Father: so he that eats me, even he shall live by me." "It is the spirit that quickens; the flesh profits nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life" (John 6:57, 63). Christ is not here referring to His doctrine, but to His person, the divinity of His character. "Verily, verily, I say unto you," He says again, "The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; and hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man" (John 5:25-27).

The Significance of Christ's Birth

God and Christ knew from the beginning, of the apostasy of Satan and of the fall of Adam through the deceptive power of the apostate. The plan of salvation was designed to redeem the fallen race, to give them another trial. Christ was appointed to the office of Mediator from the creation of God, set up from everlasting to be our substitute and surety. Before the world was made, it was arranged that the divinity of Christ should be enshrouded in humanity. "A body," said Christ, "hast thou prepared me" (Hebrews 10:5). But He did not come in human form until the fullness of time had expired. Then He came to our world, a babe in Bethlehem.

No one born into the world, not even the most gifted of God's children, has ever been accorded such demonstration of joy as greeted the Babe born in Bethlehem. Angels of God sang His praises over the hills and plains of Bethlehem. "Glory to God in the highest," they sang, "and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:14). O that today the human family could recognize this song! The declaration then made, the note then struck, the tune then started, will swell and extend to the end of time, and resound to the ends of the earth. It is glory to God, it is peace on earth, good will to men. When the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings, the song then started in the hills of Bethlehem will be re-echoed by the voice of a great multitude, as the voice of many waters, saying, "Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigns" (Revelation 19:6).

By His obedience to all the commandments of God, Christ wrought out a redemption for men. This was not done by going out of Himself to another, but by taking humanity into Himself. Thus Christ gave to humanity an existence out of Himself. To bring humanity into Christ, to bring the fallen race into oneness with divinity, is the work of redemption. Christ took human nature that men might be one with Him as He is one with the Father, that God may love man as He loves His only-begotten Son, that men may be partakers of the divine nature, and be complete in Him.

The Holy Spirit, which proceeds from the only-begotten Son of God, binds the human agent, body, soul, and spirit, to the perfect, divine-human nature of Christ. This union is represented by the union of the vine and the branches. Finite man is united to the manhood of Christ. Through faith human nature is assimilated with Christ's nature. We are made one with God in Christ.

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, April 19th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 116

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 19th

Take God’s Word on Trust

I, even I, am he that blots out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins, Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou may be justified.

Isaiah 43:25, 26

Satan will come to you saying, You are a sinner. But do not let him fill your mind with the thought that, because you are sinful, God has cast you off. Say to him, Yes; I am a sinner, and for that reason I need a Saviour. I need forgiveness and pardon, and Christ says that if I come to Him I shall not perish. In His letter to me I read, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). I will believe the word He has left for me....

The moment you grasp God’s promises by faith and say, I am the lost sheep that Jesus came to save, a new life will take possession of you, and you will receive strength to resist the tempter. But faith to grasp the promises does not come by feeling. “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). You must not look for some great change to take place; you must not expect to feel some wonderful emotion....

Take God’s word on trust, saying, He loves me: He gave His life for me; and He will save me.... Look away from yourself to Jesus. Embrace Him as your Saviour. Cease to bemoan your helpless condition. Looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of your faith, you will be inspired with hope and will see the salvation of God. When you feel tempted to mourn, force your lips to utter the praises of God. “Rejoice in the Lord always” (Philippians 4:4). Is He not worthy of praise? Then educate your lips to talk of His glory and to magnify His name....

Today the Lord says to you, Be not discouraged, but cast your burdens upon Me. You cannot carry your own sins. I will take them all.... If you will trust in Me, you will not want any good thing....

Never has a soul that trusts in Jesus been left to perish. “I, even I, am he,” the Lord declares, “that blots out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.”

Daily Scripture

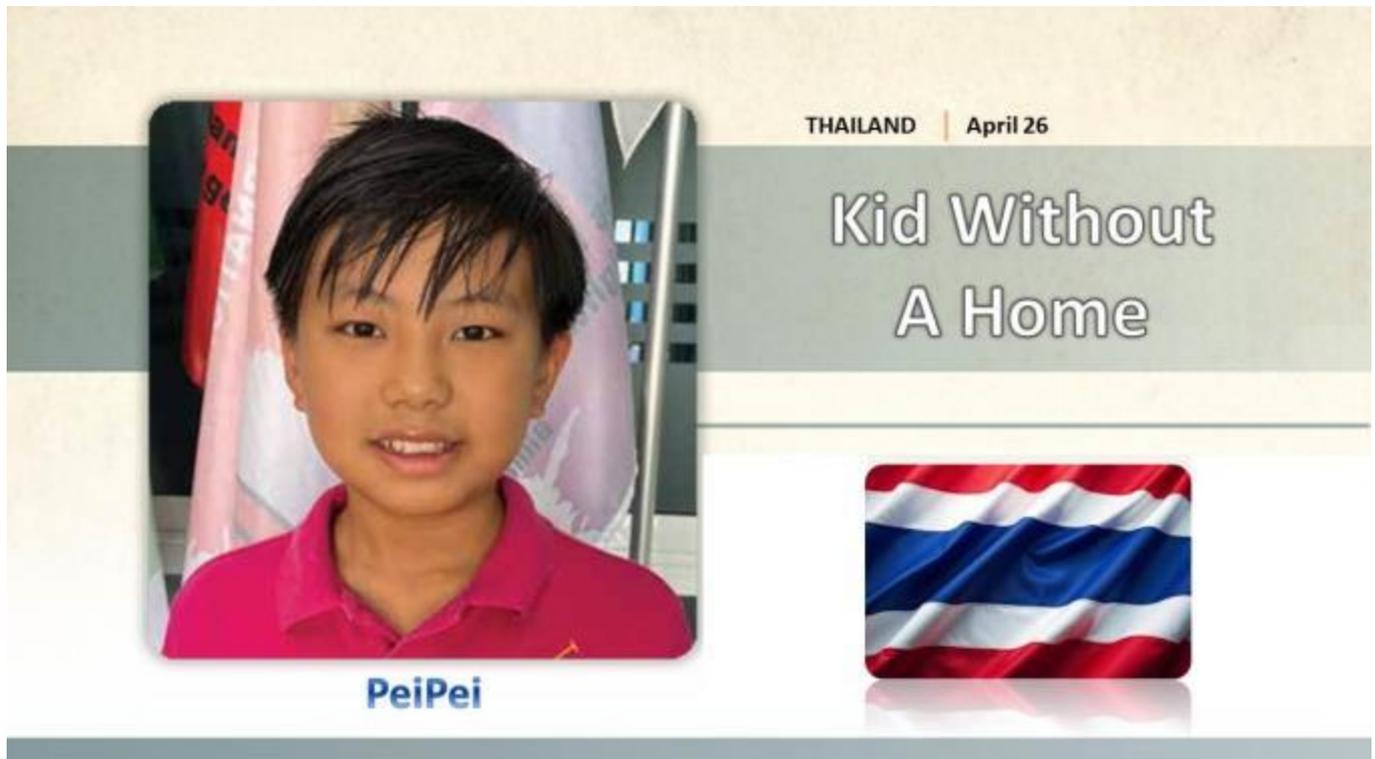
Sabbath, April 19th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 52

The Steadfast Love of God Endures

- Psa 52:1 **To the chief Musician, Maschil, A Psalm of David, when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul, and said unto him, David is come to the house of Ahimelech.** Why boast thou thyself in mischief, O mighty man? the goodness of God *endures* continually.
- Psa 52:2 Thy tongue devises mischiefs; like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.
- Psa 52:3 Thou love evil more than good; *and* lying rather than to speak righteousness. Selah.
- Psa 52:4 Thou love all devouring words, O *thou* deceitful tongue.
- Psa 52:5 God shall likewise destroy thee for ever, he shall take thee away, and pluck thee out of *thy* dwelling place, and root thee out of the land of the living. Selah.
- Psa 52:6 The righteous also shall see, and fear, and shall laugh at him:
- Psa 52:7 Lo, *this is* the man *that* made not God his strength; but trusted in the abundance of his riches, *and* strengthened himself in his wickedness.
- Psa 52:8 But I *am* like a green olive tree in the house of God: I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.
- Psa 52:9 I will praise thee for ever, because thou hast done *it*: and I will wait on thy name; for *it is* good before thy saints.



Where are you from? Peipei [PAY-pay] wasn’t sure where he was from.

You see, Peipei’s dad was from India, and his mom was from the Philippines. But he didn’t feel like he was from India. He didn’t feel like he was from the Philippines. Instead, he could imagine himself coming from a country that was half India and half the Philippines. The imaginary country could be called Indippines or Philippia. But no such country existed in the world.

Peipei also wasn’t sure where he was from because he had never lived in India and he had never lived in the Philippines. Peipei lives in Thailand. He is a missionary kid, and he has lived his whole life in Thailand. His dad works as a missionary teacher at a Seventh-day Adventist school in the big city of Korat. His mom also works as a missionary teacher at the school.

One Sabbath afternoon, Peipei grew quite confused when he had to decide where he was from. He and the other kids in their Pathfinder club were supposed to form groups and sing a song in their own language. The Pathfinder club had kids from many countries: India, the Philippines, Thailand, and other places. Peipei didn’t know which group to join. Children from India were singing in the Hindi language. But Peipei didn’t speak Hindi even though his dad was from India. Children from the Philippines were singing in the Tagalog language. But Peipei didn’t speak Tagalog even though his mom was from the Philippines.

Peipei knew how to speak English, which he spoke at home and at the mission school. He also knew how to speak a little Thai, which he had learned at the mission school.

“What should I do?” he asked his mom.

“Go and join the kids singing in the Thai language,” his mom said.

Peipei joined the Thai children in singing a song about Jesus in Thai. But he didn't feel very comfortable. Thai didn't feel like his language. His eyes became sad, and his shoulders sagged.

A teacher saw his sad face and went over to him.

“What's wrong?” she asked.

“Teacher Ann, I don't know where I'm from,” Peipei said.

“What do you mean?” she said.

“I'm half Indian, but I don't know how to speak Hindi,” Peipei explained. “I'm half Filipino, but I don't know how to speak Tagalog. I live in Thailand, but I only know a little Thai. Of these three languages, I know Thai the most, but I'm not comfortable being in any of these groups. I don't know where I'm from.”

Teacher Ann wrapped a comforting arm around Peipei's shoulders. She had been born in Thailand, and her first language was Thai. But she spoke to him in English.

“I'm from Thailand,” she said. “Today, I'm adopting you and officially making you a citizen of Thailand. Today, you are from Thailand.”

Peipei straightened his shoulders. His eyes brightened, and a smile spread across his face. Today, he officially had a homeland. Today, he was from Thailand.

Peipei returned to the group of singing Thai children. He was at home. He opened his mouth and joined the Thai children in singing joyfully about the Jesus who would one day soon take them to their new home, heaven.

Peipei is a missionary kid studying at Korat Adventist International School in Thailand. While his parents are Seventh-day Adventist, many children at the school come from families who have never heard about God.

Part of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering several years ago helped build the school. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter that will help other children in Asia also learn about God.

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – April 20th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Romans 1:3; Hebrews 2:14; Hebrews 2:16;

1. How did Paul describe the humanity of Jesus?

➤ **Hebrews 2:14** —

NOTES : “Christ did not make believe take human nature; He did verily take it. He did in reality possess human nature. “As the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also himself likewise took part of the same.” [Hebrews 2:14] He was the son of Mary; He was of the seed of David according to human descent. He is declared to be a man, even the Man Christ Jesus.” —*Selected Messages Book 1, page 247*

2. To which of His earthly ancestors did Paul especially link Jesus?

➤ **Romans 1:3** —

➤ **Hebrews 2:16** —

NOTES : “Jesus accepted humanity when the race had been weakened by four thousand years of sin. Like every child of Adam He accepted the results of the working of the great law of heredity. What these results were is shown in the history of His earthly ancestors. He came with such a heredity to share our sorrows and temptations, and to give us the example of a sinless life.” —*The Desire of Ages, page 48*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sunday, April 20th, 2025

[Romans 1:3]

↪ ³ Concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;

[Hebrews 2:14]

↪ ¹⁴ Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

[Hebrews 2:16]

↪ ¹⁶ For truly He took not on *Him the nature of* angels; but He took on *Him* the seed of Abraham.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, April 20th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 117

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 20th

Battles to Fight

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

1 Timothy 6:12

There are continuous battles to fight, and we are not safe a moment unless we place ourselves under the guardianship of One who gave His own precious life to make it possible for everyone who will believe in Him as the Son of God, while meeting the strain of Satan’s varied science, to escape the corruptions that are in the world through lust. He is fully able, in response to our faith, to unite our human with His divine nature. We are, while trusting in and partaking of the divine nature and strengthening our own efforts, proclaiming Christ’s mission on earth to be peace on earth and good will toward men. We are bound to speak of the dangers of the warfare with invisible foes, and to keep the armour on, for we war not merely against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers and spiritual wickedness in high places.... Therefore we need to keep under the constant guardianship of holy angels.

To follow Christ is not freedom from conflict. It is not child’s play. It is not spiritual idleness. All the enjoyment in Christ’s service means sacred obligations in meeting often stern conflicts. To follow Christ means stern battles, active labour, warfare against the world, the flesh, and the devil. Our enjoyment is the victories gained for Christ in earnest, hard, warfare.... We are enlisted for labour, “*not for the meat which perishes, but for that meat which endures unto everlasting life*” (John 6:27)....

Every soul must count the cost. Not one will succeed but by strenuous effort. We must spiritually exercise all our powers and crucify the flesh with its affections and lusts. Crucifixion means much more than many suppose....

It is a constant watchfulness to be faithful unto death, to fight the good fight of faith until the warfare is ended and as overcomers we shall receive the crown of life.

I can see my Redeemer, in whom I have fresh encouragement to trust as a never-failing Source of strength.

Daily Scripture

Sunday, April 20th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 53

There Is None Who Does Good

- Psa 53:1 **To the chief Musician upon Mahalath, Maschil, A Psalm of David.** The fool has said in his heart, *There is* no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: *there is* none that doeth good.
- Psa 53:2 God looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were *any* that did understand, that did seek God.
- Psa 53:3 Every one of them is gone back: they are altogether become filthy; *there is* none that doeth good, no, not one.
- Psa 53:4 Have the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people *as* they eat bread: they have not called upon God.
- Psa 53:5 There were they in great fear, *where* no fear was: for God has scattered the bones of him that encamps *against* thee: thou hast put *them* to shame, because God has despised them.
- Psa 53:6 Oh that the salvation of Israel *were come* out of Zion! When God brings back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, *and* Israel shall be glad.

Monday – April 21st

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Hebrews 2:14–18; Hebrews 4:15–16;

1. How important was it that Jesus should be made like His brethren in every respect?

➤ **Hebrews 2:14–18** —

NOTES : “Christ saw man's fearful danger, and He determined to save him by the sacrifice of Himself. That He might accomplish His purpose of love for the fallen race, He became bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh.”—*Reflecting Christ, page 17*

“In taking humanity, Christ united himself to the human race by inseparable cords. By His life of self-denying ministry, by His suffering on the cross, in which He tasted death for every man, He bound Himself to the heart of every member of the human family... Touched with the feeling of their infirmities, Christ wept with those that wept; and with those who rejoiced, He could rejoice. Such a character as His cannot be without its influence upon the characters of His followers. Those who educate their minds to dwell on the perfections of Christ will represent Him to the world.”
—*Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, November 21st, 1899*

2. Why is Jesus able to help us when we are tempted?

➤ **Hebrews 2:18** —

➤ **Hebrews 4:15–16** —

NOTES : “The Son of God was assaulted at every step by the powers of darkness. After His baptism, He was driven of the Spirit into the wilderness, and suffered temptation for forty days. Letters have been coming in to me, affirming that Christ could not have had the same nature as man, for if He had, He would have fallen under similar temptations. If He did not have man's nature, He could not be our example. If He was not a partaker of our nature, He could not have been tempted as man has been. If it were not possible for Him to yield to temptation, He could not be our helper. It was a solemn reality that Christ came to fight the battles as man, in man's behalf. His temptation and victory tell us that humanity must copy the Pattern; man must become a partaker of the divine nature.” —*Selected Messages, Book 1, page 408*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Monday, April 21st, 2025

[Hebrews 2:14-18]

- ↪ ¹⁴ Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;
- ¹⁵ And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.
- ¹⁶ For truly He took not on *Him the nature of angels*; but He took on *Him* the seed of Abraham.
- ¹⁷ Wherefore in all things it behoved Him to be made like unto *His* brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.
- ¹⁸ For in that He Himself has suffered being tempted, He is able to succour them that are tempted.

[Hebrews 4:15-16]

- ↪ ¹⁵ For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are, yet* without sin.
- ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, April 21st, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 118

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 21st

A Nominal Faith Not Sufficient

For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

Isaiah 41:13

For a few weeks past I have had a deep sense of the promises of God and the hope of the Christian. The Bible never seemed to me so full of rich gems of promise as within the last few weeks. It seems that the dews of heaven are ready to fall upon us and refresh us, if we will only take the promises to ourselves. We can never overcome our own natural tendencies without the help of Heaven, and the precious Jesus places Himself right by our side to help us in this work. He says, “*Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.*” (Matthew 28:20). We want to believe just what Christ has said. We want that our faith shall compass the promises....

It is a great thing to believe in Jesus. We hear many say, “*Believe, believe; all that you have to do is to believe in Jesus.*” But it is our privilege to inquire, What does this belief take in? and what does it comprehend? There are many of us who have a nominal faith but we do not bring that faith into our characters.... We must have that faith which works by love and purifies the soul, that this belief in Christ will lead us to put away everything that is offensive in His sight. Unless we have this faith that works, it is of no advantage to us. You may admit that Christ is the Saviour of the world, but is He your Saviour? Do you believe today that He will give you strength and power to overcome every defect in your character? ...

We have individually this lesson to learn of special trust in our Saviour. We are to trust our heavenly Father just as a child trusts its earthly parents, and believe that He is working for our good in all things; and that every struggling cry and every effort against the adversary of our soul enters into the ears of the God of Sabaoth, and that He will send us help every time we need it. He will help us over every temptation if we call upon Him in faith. Now this is the lesson we must learn.

I can trust my Saviour; He saves me today; and while I am struggling to overcome the temptations of the enemy He will give me grace to conquer.

Daily Scripture

Monday, April 21st, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 54

The Lord Upholds My Life

- Psa 54:1 **To the chief Musician on Neginoth, Maschil, A Psalm of David, when the Ziphims came and said to Saul, Doth not David hide himself with us?** Save me, O God, by thy name, and judge me by thy strength.
- Psa 54:2 Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.
- Psa 54:3 For strangers are risen up against me, and oppressors seek after my soul: they have not set God before them. Selah.
- Psa 54:4 Behold, God *is* mine helper: the Lord *is* with them that uphold my soul.
- Psa 54:5 He shall reward evil unto mine enemies: cut them off in thy truth.
- Psa 54:6 I will freely sacrifice unto thee: I will praise thy name, O LORD; for *it is* good.
- Psa 54:7 For he has delivered me out of all trouble: and mine eye has seen *his desire* upon mine enemies.

Tuesday – April 22nd

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 8:17; John 8:46; Hebrews 5:7–8; 1 Peter 1:19; 1 Peter 2:21–22;

1. Although Jesus took our nature and experienced temptation just as we do, how confident can we be that He did not sin?

➤ **John 8:46, first part —**

➤ **1 Peter 2:21–22 —**

NOTES : “In taking upon Himself man's nature in its fallen condition, Christ did not in the least participate in its sin. He was subject to the infirmities and weaknesses by which man is encompassed, “that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.” [Matthew 8:17] He was touched with the feeling of our infirmities, and was in all points tempted like as we are. And yet He knew no sin. He was the Lamb “without blemish and without spot” [1 Peter 1:19]” —*Selected Messages, Book 1, page 256*

2. How real were Christ's temptations? Did He, as man, have to learn obedience to God?

➤ **Hebrews 5:7–8 —**

NOTES : “It was not only on the cross that Christ gave Himself for humanity, not only in the wilderness of temptation and in Gethsemane that He overcame in our behalf. Every day's experience was an outpouring of His life; every day He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And because the life of Jesus was a life of perfect trust His service for heaven and earth was without failure or faltering. He met and resisted all the temptations that man must meet because in His humanity He relied upon divine power.” —*The Columbia Union Visitor, October 2nd, 1912*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, April 22nd, 2025

[Matthew 8:17]

↳ ¹⁷ That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare *our* sicknesses.

[John 8:46]

↳ ⁴⁶ Which of you convinces Me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do you not believe Me?

[Hebrews 5:7-8]

↳ ⁷ Who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him that was able to save Him from death, and was heard in that He feared;
⁸ Though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered;

[1 Peter 1:19]

↳ ¹⁹ But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

[1 Peter 2:21-22]

↳ ²¹ For even hereunto were you called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:
²² Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth:

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, April 22nd, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 119

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 22nd

Abundant Mercy

They that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.

Psalm 9:10

A soul whom God had forsaken would never feel as you have felt and would never love the truth and salvation as you have loved it. Oh, if God’s Spirit ceases to strive with a soul it is left in an indifferent state, and all the time thinks that it is well enough off.... You must not gratify the enemy in the least by doubting and casting away your confidence. Said the angel, “*God leaves not His people, even if they err. He turns not from them in wrath for any light thing. If they sin they have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*”

This Advocate pleads for sinners and the Father accepts His prayer. He turns not away the request of His beloved Son. He who so loved you as to give His own life for you will not turn you off and forsake you unless you wilfully, determinedly forsake Him to serve the world and Satan. Jesus loves to have you come to Him just as you are, hopeless and helpless, and cast yourself upon His all-abundant mercy and believe that He will receive you just as you are.

You dwell upon the dark side. You must turn your mind away, and instead of thinking all the time upon the wrath of God, think of His abundant mercy, His willingness to save poor sinners, and then believe He saves you. You must in the name of God break this spell that is upon you. You must cry out, “I will, I do believe!” Jesus retains your name upon His breastplate and pleads for you before His Father, and if your eyes could be opened you would see heavenly angels ministering unto you, hovering about and driving back the evil angels that they should not utterly destroy....

God calls upon you to believe. Heed His voice. Cease talking of the wrath of God and talk of His compassion and His abundant mercy. Jesus sits as a refiner and purifier of silver. The furnace in which you may be placed may be very hot, yet you will come forth as gold seven times purified, reflecting the image of Jesus. Have courage. Look up, believe, and you shall see of the salvation of God.

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, April 22nd, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 55

Cast Your Burden on the Lord

- Psa 55:1 **To the chief Musician on Neginoth, Maschil, A Psalm of David.** Give ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not thyself from my supplication.
- Psa 55:2 Attend unto me, and hear me: I mourn in my complaint, and make a noise;
- Psa 55:3 Because of the voice of the enemy, because of the oppression of the wicked: for they cast iniquity upon me, and in wrath they hate me.
- Psa 55:4 My heart is sore pained within me: and the terrors of death are fallen upon me.
- Psa 55:5 Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me, and horror has overwhelmed me.
- Psa 55:6 And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! *for then* would I fly away, and be at rest.
- Psa 55:7 Lo, *then* would I wander far off, *and* remain in the wilderness. Selah.
- Psa 55:8 I would hasten my escape from the windy storm *and* tempest.
- Psa 55:9 Destroy, O Lord, *and* divide their tongues: for I have seen violence and strife in the city.
- Psa 55:10 Day and night they go about it upon the walls thereof: mischief also and sorrow *are* in the midst of it.
- Psa 55:11 Wickedness *is* in the midst thereof: deceit and guile depart not from her streets.
- Psa 55:12 For *it was* not an enemy *that* reproached me; then I could have borne *it*: neither *was it* he that hated me *that* did magnify *himself* against me; then I would have hid myself from him:
- Psa 55:13 But *it was* thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance.
- Psa 55:14 We took sweet counsel together, *and* walked unto the house of God in company.
- Psa 55:15 Let death seize upon them, *and* let them go down quick into hell: for wickedness *is* in their dwellings, *and* among them.
- Psa 55:16 As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me.
- Psa 55:17 Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.
- Psa 55:18 He has delivered my soul in peace from the battle *that was* against me: for there were many with me.
- Psa 55:19 God shall hear, and afflict them, even he that abides of old. Selah. Because they have no changes, therefore they fear not God.
- Psa 55:20 He has put forth his hands against such as be at peace with him: he has broken his covenant.
- Psa 55:21 *The words* of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war *was* in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet *were* they drawn swords.
- Psa 55:22 Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.
- Psa 55:23 But thou, O God, shalt bring them down into the pit of destruction: bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will trust in thee.

Wednesday – April 23rd

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : John 14:30; Hebrews 4:15-16; 1 Peter 2:21–22; 1 John 2:6;

1. What example did Jesus leave us?

➤ **1 Peter 2:21–22** —

NOTES : “Many seem to think that it is impossible not to fall under temptation, that they have no power to overcome; and they sin against God with their lips, talking discouragement and doubt, instead of faith and courage. Christ was tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin. He said, “The prince of this world cometh, and has nothing in me.” [John 14:30] What does this mean? It means that the prince of evil could find no vantage-ground in Christ for his temptation; and so it may be with us. “For we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” [Hebrews 4:15-16]” —*Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, February 20th, 1913*

2. What counsel does John give to the one says he abides in Christ?

➤ **1 John 2:6** —

NOTES : “Christ lived a human life that He might be man's example in all things. He endured temptation even as every human being must endure. He believed God as we must believe. He learned obedience even as we are required to learn obedience. And He overcame as we must overcome. His path lay through manifold temptations; therefore He knows how to succour those who are tempted.” —*Bible Echo, September 3rd, 1900*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025

[John 14:30]

↪ ³⁰ Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and has nothing in Me.

[Hebrews 4:15-16]

↪ ¹⁵ For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are, yet* without sin.

¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

[1 Peter 2:21-22]

↪ ²¹ For even hereunto were you called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

²² Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth:

[1 John 2:6]

↪ ⁶ He that said he abides in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as He walked.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 120

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 23rd

Trust in Time of Trial

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

Psalm 55:22

The Lord’s care is over all His creatures. He loves them all, and makes no difference, except that He has the most tender pity for those who are called to bear life’s heaviest burdens. God’s children must meet trials and difficulties. But they should accept their lot with a cheerful spirit, remembering that for all that the world neglects to bestow, God Himself will make up to them in the best of favours.

We are in danger, by worrying, of manufacturing yokes for our necks. Let us not worry, for thus we make the yoke more severe and the burden heavy. Let us do all we can without worrying, trusting in Christ.

With the continual change of circumstances, changes come in our experience; and by these changes we are either elated or depressed. But the change of circumstances has no power to change God’s relation to us. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever; and He asks us to have unquestioning confidence in His love.

Satan watches his opportunity to bring about circumstances that will tend to arouse unbelief, hoping to lead us to doubt God. We cannot afford to cherish one thought of unbelief. When we are tempted to look on the dark side, let us open the windows of the soul heavenward, that the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness may shine in. Let us draw near to God. He has promised that as we do this He will draw near to us and lift up for us a standard against the enemy. The efficiency of His keeping power has in no wise decreased. Let faith stand its trial without wavering, for Christ is a perfect Saviour.

You may look upon your plans as perfect, but God may see that it is essential for you to suffer disappointment in order that your plans may be brought into harmony with His plan. His way is always the right way. He sees and knows all things. We do not always see as He sees....

Take your stand on the word of God. Whatever may occur, hold fast the beginning of your confidence firm unto the end.

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 56

In God I Trust

- Psa 56:1 **To the chief Musician upon Jonathelemrechokim, Michtam of David, when the Philistines took him in Gath.** Be merciful unto me, O God: for man would swallow me up; he fighting daily oppresses me.
- Psa 56:2 Mine enemies would daily swallow *me* up: for *they be* many that fight against me, O thou most High.
- Psa 56:3 What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.
- Psa 56:4 In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.
- Psa 56:5 Every day they wrest my words: all their thoughts *are* against me for evil.
- Psa 56:6 They gather themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my steps, when they wait for my soul.
- Psa 56:7 Shall they escape by iniquity? in *thine* anger cast down the people, O God.
- Psa 56:8 Thou tell my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: *are they* not in thy book?
- Psa 56:9 When I cry *unto thee*, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God *is* for me.
- Psa 56:10 In God will I praise *his* word: in the LORD will I praise *his* word.
- Psa 56:11 In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.
- Psa 56:12 Thy vows *are* upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee.
- Psa 56:13 For thou hast delivered my soul from death: *wilt not thou deliver* my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?

Thursday – April 24th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 11:28-30; John 4:34; John 5:19; John 5:30; John 5:36; John 7:16; John 8:28; John 9:4; John 10:17-18; John 10:30; John 12:49–50; John 14:10; Philippians 2:5–8;

1. How dependent was Jesus on His heavenly father?

- **John 4:34** —
- **John 5:19** —
- **John 5:30** —
- **John 5:36** —
- **John 7:16** —
- **John 8:28** —
- **John 9:4** —
- **John 10:17-18** —
- **John 10:30** —
- **John 12:49–50** —
- **John 14:10** —

NOTES : “The Son of God was surrendered to the Father's will, and dependent upon His power. So utterly was Christ emptied of self that He made no plans for Himself. He accepted God's plans for Him, and day by day, the Father unfolded His plans. So should we depend upon God, that our lives may be the simple outworking of His will.”—*The Desire of Ages, page 208*

2. What counsel did Paul give concerning the mind of Christ?

- **Philippians 2:5-8** —

NOTES : “Says Christ: “Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.” [Matthew 11:28-30] I testify to you, my dear brethren, ministers, and people, you have not yet learned this lesson. Christ endured shame and agony and death for us. “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.” [Philippians 2:5] Bear reproach and abuse without retaliation, without a spirit of revenge. Jesus died, not only to make atonement for us, but to be our pattern. Oh, wondrous condescension! Matchless love! As you look upon the Prince of Life upon the cross, can you cherish selfishness? Can you indulge hatred or revenge? Let the proud spirit bow in humiliation. Let the hard heart be broken. No longer pet and pity and exalt self. Look, oh look upon Him whom our sins have pierced. See Him descending step by step the path of humiliation to lift us up; abasing Himself till He could go no lower, and all to save us who were fallen by sin! Why will we be so indifferent, so cold, so formal, so proud, so self-sufficient? Who of us is faithfully following the Pattern? Who of us has instituted and continued the warfare against pride of heart? Who of us has, in good earnest, brought himself to wrestle with selfishness until it should no longer dwell in the heart and be revealed in the life? Would to God the lessons given us, as we view the cross of Christ and

see the signs fulfilling which bring us near to the judgement, might be so impressed upon our hearts as to render us more humble, more self-denying, more kind to one another, less self-caring, less critical, and more willing to bear one another's burdens than we are today.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 17–18*

3. Heaven's Hotline



Lesson Scripture

Thursday, April 24th, 2025

[Matthew 11:28-30]

- ☞ ²⁸ Come unto Me, all *you* that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
- ☞ ²⁹ Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest unto your souls.
- ☞ ³⁰ For My yoke *is* easy, and My burden is light.

[John 4:34]

- ☞ ³⁴ Jesus said unto them, My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work.

[John 5:19]

- ☞ ¹⁹ Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees The Father do: for what things soever He does, these also does The Son likewise.

[John 5:30]

- ☞ ³⁰ I can of My own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and My judgment is just; because I seek not My own will, but the will of The Father which has sent Me.

[John 5:36]

- ☞ ³⁶ But I have greater witness than *that* of John: for the works which The Father has given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of Me, that The Father has sent me.

[John 7:16]

- ☞ ¹⁶ Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not Mine, but His that sent Me.

[John 8:28]

- ☞ ²⁸ Then said Jesus unto them, When you have lifted up The Son of man, then shall you know that I am *He*, and *that* I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father has taught Me, I speak these things.

[John 9:4]

- ☞ ⁴ I must work the works of Him that sent Me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

[John 10:17-18]

- ☞ ¹⁷ Therefore does My Father love Me, because I lay down My life, that I might take it again.
- ☞ ¹⁸ No man taketh it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of My Father.

[John 10:30]

- ☞ ³⁰ I and My Father are One.

[John 12:49-50]

- ↪ ⁴⁹ For I have not spoken of Myself; but The Father which sent Me, He gave Me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.
⁵⁰ And I know that His commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as The Father said unto Me, so I speak.

[John 14:10]

- ↪ ¹⁰ Believe you not that I am in The Father, and The Father in Me? The Words that I speak unto you I speak not of Myself: but The Father that dwells in Me, He does the works.

[Philippians 2:5-8]

- ↪ ⁵ Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
⁶ Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
⁷ But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:
⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, April 24th, 2025

*In Heavenly Places,
Chapter 4, p. 121*

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 24th

Trust in Times of Affliction

My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips: when I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches.

Psalm 63:5, 6

Many hours I have passed in wakefulness and pain, but I have had the precious promises of God brought so fresh and with reviving power to my mind. The dear Saviour has been very near to me, and I love to meditate upon the love of Jesus. His tender compassion and the lessons which He gave to His disciples become clear and so full of meaning that they are the feeding of the soul upon heavenly manna.... When the Lord sees fit to say, “Lie there patiently, and reflect”; and when the Holy Spirit brings many things to my memory, precious beyond expression, I do not know what reason I have to complain.... I call to mind the verses which have been a comfort to me many times in my affliction:

“I see not a step before me as I tread on another year;
But the past is in God’s keeping, the future His mercy shall clear,
And what looks dark in the distance may brighten as I draw near.

“O restful, blissful ignorance; ‘tis blessed not to know;
It stills me in those mighty arms, which will not let me go,
And hushes my sad soul to rest on the bosom which loves me so.

“So I go on, not knowing, I would not if I might.
I would rather walk in the dark with God, than go alone in the light.
I would rather walk with Him by faith, than walk alone by sight.

“My heart shrinks back from trial which the future may disclose,
Yet I never have a sorrow but what the dear Lord chose.
So I send the coming teardrops back with the whispered word,
‘He knows,’”

Daily Scripture

Thursday, April 24th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 57

Let Your Glory Be over All the Earth

- Psa 57:1 **To the chief Musician, Altaschith, Michtam of David, when he fled from Saul in the cave.** Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusts in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until *these* calamities be overpast.
- Psa 57:2 I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performs *all things* for me.
- Psa 57:3 He shall send from heaven, and save me *from* the reproach of him that would swallow me up. Selah. God shall send forth his mercy and his truth.
- Psa 57:4 My soul *is* among lions: *and* I lie *even among* them that are set on fire, *even* the sons of men, whose teeth *are* spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.
- Psa 57:5 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; *let* thy glory *be* above all the earth.
- Psa 57:6 They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down: they have dug a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen *themselves*. Selah.
- Psa 57:7 My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.
- Psa 57:8 Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp: I *myself* will awake early.
- Psa 57:9 I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto thee among the nations.
- Psa 57:10 For thy mercy *is* great unto the heavens, and thy truth unto the clouds.
- Psa 57:11 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: *let* thy glory *be* above all the earth.

Preparation Day – April 25th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 40:8; Psalm 119:11; Mark 1:24; Luke 4:34; John 5:30; John 8:29; John 15:16; 1 John 2:6;

1. What divine principle guided Christ's life on earth?

➤ **Psalm 40:8** —

NOTES : “Christ came to vindicate the sacred claims of the law. He came to live a life of obedience to its requirements and thus prove the falsity of the charge made by Satan that it is impossible for man to keep the law of God. As a man He met temptation and overcame in the strength given Him from God. As He went about doing good, healing all who were afflicted by Satan, He made plain to men the character of God's law and the nature of His service. His life testifies that it is possible for us also to obey the law of God. Never did Christ deviate from loyalty to the principles of God's law. Never did He do anything contrary to the will of His Father. Before angels, men, and demons He could speak words that from any other lips would have been blasphemy: “I do always those things that please Him.” [John 8:29] Day by day for three years His enemies followed Him, trying to find some stain in His character. Satan, with all his confederacy of evil, sought to overcome Him; but they found nothing in Him by which to gain advantage. Even the devils were forced to confess: “Thou art the Holy One of God.” [Mark 1:24; Luke 4:34]”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 8, p. 207–208*

2. What principle should guide the follower of Christ?

➤ **Psalm 119:11** —

NOTES : “Merely to hear or to read the word is not enough. He who desires to be profited by the Scriptures must meditate upon the truth that has been presented to him. By earnest attention and prayerful thought he must learn the meaning of the words of truth, and drink deep of the spirit of the holy oracles. God bids us fill the mind with great thoughts, pure thoughts. He desires us to meditate upon His love and mercy, to study His wonderful work in the great plan of redemption. Then clearer and still clearer will be our perception of truth, higher, holier, our desire for purity of heart and clearness of thought. The soul dwelling in the pure atmosphere of holy thought will be transformed by communion with God through the study of Scriptures. “And bring forth fruit.” [John 15:16] Those who, having heard the word, keep it, will bring forth fruit in obedience. The word of God, received into the soul, will be manifest in good works. Its results will be seen in a Christlike character and life. Christ said of Himself, “I delight to do Thy will, O My God; yea, Thy law is within My heart.” [Psalm 40:8] “I seek not Mine own will, but the will of the Father which has sent Me.” [John 5:30] And the Scripture says, “He that said he abides in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as He walked.” [1 John 2:6] The word of God often comes in collision with man's hereditary and cultivated traits of character and his habits of life. But the good-ground hearer, in receiving the word, accepts all its conditions and requirements. His habits, customs, and practices are brought into submission to God's word. In his view the commands of finite, erring man sink into insignificance beside the word of the infinite God. With the whole heart, with undivided purpose, he is seeking the life eternal, and at the cost of loss, persecution, or death itself, he will obey the truth.”—*Christ's Object Lessons, p. 60*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, April 25th, 2025

[Psalms 40:8]

☞ ⁸ I delight to do Your will, O my God: yes, Your law *is* within my heart.

[Psalms 119:11]

☞ ¹¹ Your word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against You.

[Mark 1:24]

☞ ²⁴ Saying, Let *us* alone; what have we to do with You, You Jesus of Nazareth? are You come to destroy us? I know You who You are, The Holy One of God.

[Luke 4:34]

☞ ⁴⁴ Saying, Let *us* alone; what have we to do with You, *You* Jesus of Nazareth? are You come to destroy us? I know You who You are, The Holy One of God.

[John 5:30]

☞ ³⁰ I can of My own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and My judgment is just; because I seek not My own will, but the will of The Father which has sent Me.

[John 8:29]

☞ ²⁹ And He that sent Me is with Me: The Father has not left Me alone; for I do always those things that please Him.

[John 15:16]

☞ ¹⁶ You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that you should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever you shall ask of The Father in My name, He may give it *to* you.

[1 John 2:6]

☞ ⁶ He that said he abides in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as He walked.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, April 25th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 122

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 25th

Trust When You Have Failed

Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:12

In order to fight successfully in the battle against sin, you must keep close to Jesus. Do not talk unbelief; you have no excuse for doing this.... Unbelief always separates the soul from Christ.

It is not praiseworthy to talk of our weakness and discouragement. Let each one say, “I am grieved that I yield to temptation, that my prayers are so feeble, my faith so weak. I have no excuse to plead for being dwarfed in my religious life. But I am seeking to obtain completeness of character in Christ. I have sinned, and yet I love Jesus. I have fallen many times, and yet He has reached out His hand to save me. I have told Him all about my mistakes. I have confessed with shame and sorrow that I have dishonoured Him. I have looked to the cross, and have said, All this He suffered for me. The Holy Spirit has shown me my ingratitude, my sin in putting Christ to open shame. He who knows no sin has forgiven my sin. He calls me to a higher, nobler life, and I press on to the things that are before.” ...

The humility that bears fruit, filling the soul with a sense of the love of God, will speak for the one who has cherished it, in the great day when men will be rewarded according as their works have been. Happy will be the one of whom it can be said, “The Spirit of God never stirred this man’s soul in vain. He went forward and upward from strength to strength. Self was not woven into his life. Each message of correction, warning, and counsel he received as a blessing from God. Thus the way was prepared for him to receive still greater blessings, because God did not speak to him in vain. Each step upward on the ladder of progress prepared him to climb still higher. From the top of the ladder the bright beams of God’s glory shone upon him. He did not think of resting, but sought constantly to attain the wisdom and righteousness of Christ. Ever he pressed toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”

This experience everyone who is saved must have.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, April 25th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 58

God Who Judges the Earth

- Psa 58:1 **To the chief Musician, Altschith, Michtam of David.** Do ye indeed speak righteousness, O congregation? do ye judge uprightly, O ye sons of men?
- Psa 58:2 Yea, in heart ye work wickedness; ye weigh the violence of your hands in the earth.
- Psa 58:3 The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.
- Psa 58:4 Their poison *is* like the poison of a serpent: *they are* like the deaf adder *that* stops her ear;
- Psa 58:5 Which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, charming never so wisely.
- Psa 58:6 Break their teeth, O God, in their mouth: break out the great teeth of the young lions, O LORD.
- Psa 58:7 Let them melt away as waters *which* run continually: *when* he bends *his bow to shoot* his arrows, let them be as cut in pieces.
- Psa 58:8 As a snail *which* melts, let *every one of them* pass away: *like* the untimely birth of a woman, *that* they may not see the sun.
- Psa 58:9 Before your pots can feel the thorns, he shall take them away as with a whirlwind, both living, and in *his* wrath.
- Psa 58:10 The righteous shall rejoice when he sees the vengeance: he shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked.
- Psa 58:11 So that a man shall say, Verily *there is* a reward for the righteous: verily he is a God that judges in the earth.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, April 25th, 2025



On a Friday night, Renato was reviewing the sermon that he had prepared to preach the next day for his 37th birthday.

A native of Brazil, he was in the middle of his first year as a missionary teacher in Thailand, and he had asked the pastor if he could preach for his birthday.

“I’m far from home,” he had said. “I don’t know what to do for my birthday. Please let me preach. That is the only way I can celebrate my birthday.”

But as Renato was looking over his sermon notes, he got a phone call from the headquarters of the South American Division in Brazil.

It seemed that God had something else in mind for Renato’s birthday.

“Could you go to the Bangkok airport?” asked the caller. It was a departmental director at the South American Division. “A former Seventh-day Adventist member has been arrested there for drug trafficking.”

Renato’s heart was touched by the caller’s concern. Brazil was far from Thailand, but a Brazilian church leader was worried about a former church member who had been arrested in Thailand.

“We need a missionary to visit this boy and pray with him,” the departmental director said. “Maybe you can give him a Bible. We need someone to hug him.”

Renato put aside the sermon notes and went to the airport. He didn’t understand the Thai language very well and wasn’t sure how he would communicate with the police. He also felt anxious and even a little afraid about going to the police to talk about someone whom he didn’t know.

At the airport, the police said he had arrived too late. The young man had already been transferred to another location.

There was nothing he could do at the airport.

Several weeks passed, and Renato received another phone call. This time it was from the young man’s lawyer in Brazil.

She said her client was in a prison not far from Bangkok and asked if Renato could visit him.

Renato went.

It was the first of what became many regular visits to the prison.

Sometimes the young man needed food. Pork and seafood, which are popular dishes in Thailand, were served often at the prison, but the young man didn’t eat unclean food. The young man’s mom called Renato and together they looked for food that Renato could bring to the prison.

The young man acknowledged to Renato that he had made a big mistake, and he expressed a desire to make things right with God. The two spoke about God and his love.

After some time, the young man’s lawyer asked Renato to visit another Brazilian prisoner who was also her client in the Thai prison. So, Renato, who had arrived in Thailand to teach 100 fourth grade children at an Adventist school, also became a missionary to two Brazilian inmates in a Thai prison. Today, he visits the two men every month and is ready to meet with other foreign inmates if God provides the opportunity.

“I pray for their hearts to be changed,” he said. “Maybe in the future we will see the fruit of these prayers.”

He asked church members worldwide to join him in prayer.

“Pray for these two guys and also for every foreigner in prison in Thailand,” he said. “It would be wonderful if they had the chance to meet God.”

Pray for prisoners in Thailand and around the world — including every person who is chained to the burden and guilt of sin. Pray for Adventist missionaries like Renato as they proclaim the good news that Jesus died to set prisoners free from sin. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter that will help spread the gospel in the Southern Asia-Pacific Division, which includes Thailand.

By Andrew McChesney

LESSON 5

“THE HIGH AND HOLY ONE”

April 26 — May 2

📖 MEMORY VERSE : *“For this said The High and Lofty One that inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with Him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.”*
[Isaiah 57:15]

? STUDY HELP : ✓ Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 260–263

🗨 INTRODUCTION : “The Bible contains instruction regarding the character God’s children must possess. “Blessed are the pure in heart,” it declares, “for they shall see God.” [Matthew 5:8] “Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.” [Hebrews 12:14] “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifies himself, even as He is pure.” [1 John 3:2-3]”—*Counsels to Parents, Teachers and Students, page 429*

Sabbath – April 26th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Isaiah 57:15; Matthew 5:8; Hebrews 12:14; 1 John 3:2-3;

1. How does Isaiah describe God?

➤ Isaiah 57:15 —

NOTES : “The high and lofty One who inhabits eternity claims and deserves our highest thoughts and holiest affections. God is the source of all power. From his infinite love flow blessings to every creature formed in his image. Our heavenly Father has hung out glories in the firmament of the heavens, that men may have an expression of his love in the revealing of his wondrous works. God would not have us indifferent to the symbols of the glories of his infinite power in the heavens.”—*Signs of the Times, December 12th, 1878*

2. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, April 26th, 2025

[Isaiah 57:15]

↪ ¹⁵ For this said The High and Lofty One that inhabits eternity, whose name *is* Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with Him also *that is* of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

[Matthew 5:8]

↪ ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

[Hebrews 12:14]

↪ ¹⁴ Follow peace with all *men*, and holiness, without which no man shall see The Lord:

[1 John 3:2-3]

↪ ² Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.

³ And every man that has this hope in Him purifies himself, even as He is pure.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

E. G. W. Study Help

Sabbath, April 26th, 2025

Testimonies for the Church Volume 1, Chapter 54, p. 260-263

“Great Distress Coming”

I saw greater distress in the land than we have yet witnessed. I heard groans and cries of distress, and saw large companies in active battle. I heard the booming of the cannon, the clash of arms, the hand-to-hand fight, and the groans and prayers of the dying. The ground was covered with the wounded and the dead. I saw desolate, despairing families, and pinching want in many dwellings. Even now many families are suffering want, but this will increase. The faces of many looked haggard, pale, and pinched with hunger.

I was shown that the people of God should be closely united in the bonds of Christian fellowship and love. God alone can be our shield and strength in this time of our national calamities. The people of God should awake. Their opportunities to spread the truth should be improved, for they will not last long. I was shown distress and perplexity and famine in the land. Satan is now seeking to hold God's people in a state of inactivity, to keep them from acting their part in spreading the truth, that they may at last be weighed in the balance and found wanting.

God's people must take warning and discern the signs of the times. The signs of Christ's coming are too plain to be doubted, and in view of these things everyone who professes the truth should be a living preacher. God calls upon all, both preachers and people, to awake. All heaven is astir. The scenes of earth's history are fast closing. We are amid the perils of the last days. Greater perils are before us, and yet we are not awake. This lack of activity and earnestness in the cause of God is dreadful. This death stupor is from Satan. He controls the minds of unconsecrated Sabbath keepers, and leads them to be jealous of one another, fault-finding, and censorious. It is his special work to divide hearts that the influence, strength, and labour of God's servants may be kept among unconsecrated Sabbath keepers and their precious time be occupied in settling little differences when it should be spent in proclaiming the truth to unbelievers.

I was shown God's people waiting for some change to take place--a compelling power to take hold of them. But they will be disappointed, for they are wrong. They must act, they must take hold of the work themselves and earnestly cry to God for a true knowledge of themselves. The scenes which are passing before us are of sufficient magnitude to cause us to arouse and urge the truth home to the hearts of all who will listen. The harvest of the earth is nearly ripe.

I was shown how important it is that the ministers who engage in the solemn, responsible work of proclaiming the third angel's message be right. The Lord is not straitened for means or instruments with which to do His own work. He can speak at any time, by whom He will, and His word is powerful and will accomplish the thing whereunto it is sent. But if the truth has not sanctified, made pure and clean, the hands and heart of him who ministers in holy things, he is liable to speak according to his own imperfect experience; and when he speaks of himself, according to the decisions of his own unsanctified judgment, his counsel is not then of God, but of himself. As he that is called of God is called to be holy, so he that is approved and set apart of men must give evidence of his holy calling and show forth in his heavenly conversation and conduct that he is faithful to Him who hath called him.

There are fearful woes for those who preach the truth, but are not sanctified by it, and also for those who consent to receive and maintain the unsanctified to minister to them in word and doctrine. I am alarmed for the people of God who profess to believe solemn, important truth, for I know that many of them are not converted nor sanctified through it. Men can hear and acknowledge the whole truth, and yet know nothing of the power of godliness. All who preach the truth will not themselves be saved by it. Said the angel: "Be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord."

The time has come when those who choose the Lord for their present and future portion must trust in Him alone. Everyone professing godliness must have an experience of his own. The recording angel is making a faithful record of the words and acts of God's people. Angels are watching the development of character and weighing moral worth. Those who profess to believe the truth should be right themselves and exert all their influence to enlighten and win others to the truth. Their words and works are the channel through which the pure principles of truth and holiness are conveyed to the world. They are the salt of the earth and the light thereof. I saw that in looking heavenward we shall see light and peace, but in looking to the world we shall see that every refuge must soon fail us and every good soon pass away. There is no help for us but in God; in this state of earth's confusion we can be composed, strong, or safe, only in the strength of living faith; nor can we be at peace, only as we rest in God and wait for His salvation. Greater light shines upon us than shone upon our fathers. We cannot be accepted or honoured of God in rendering the same service, or doing the same works, that our fathers did. In order to be accepted and blessed of God as they were, we must imitate their faithfulness and zeal,--improve our light as they improved theirs, --and do as they would have done had they lived in our day. We must walk in the light which shines upon us, otherwise that light will become darkness. God requires of us to exhibit to the world, in our character and works, that measure of the spirit of union and oneness which is in accordance with the sacred truths we profess and with the spirit of those prophecies that are fulfilling in these last days. The truth which has reached our understanding, and the light which has shone on the soul, will judge and condemn us, if we turn away and refuse to be led by them.

What shall I say to arouse the remnant people of God? I was shown that dreadful scenes are before us; Satan and his angels are bringing all their powers to bear upon God's people. He knows that if they sleep a little longer he is sure of them, for their destruction is certain. I warn all who profess the name of Christ to closely examine themselves and make full and thorough confession of all their wrongs, that they may go beforehand to judgment, and that the recording angel may write pardon opposite their names. My brother, my sister, if these precious moments of mercy are not improved, you will be left without excuse. If you make no special effort to arouse, if you will not manifest zeal in repenting, these golden moments will soon pass, and you will be weighed in the balance and found wanting. Then your agonizing cries will be of no avail. Then will apply the words of the Lord: "Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out My hand, and no man regarded; but ye have set at nought all My counsel, and would none of My reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; when your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon Me, but I will not answer; they shall seek Me early, but they shall not find Me: for that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord: they would none of My counsel: they despised all My reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. But whoso hearkens unto Me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil."

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, April 26th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 123

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 26th

Trust in Time of Difficulty

Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

Habakkuk 3:17, 18

The children of God may rejoice in all things and at all times. When troubles and difficulties come, believing in the wise providence of God, you may rejoice. You need not wait for a happy flight of feeling, but by faith you may lay hold of the promises and lift up a hymn of thanksgiving to God....

Memory's hall should be hung with sacred pictures, with views of Jesus, with lessons of His truth, with revealings of His matchless charms. If memory's hall were thus furnished, we would not look upon our lot as intolerable. We would not talk of the faults of others. Our souls would be full of Jesus and His love. We would not desire to dictate to the Lord the way that He should lead. We would love God supremely and our neighbour as ourselves. When the joy of the Lord is in the soul, you will not be able to repress it; you will want to tell others of the treasure you have found; you will speak of Jesus and His matchless charms. We should devote all to Him. Our minds should be educated to dwell upon those things that will glorify God; and if our mental powers are dedicated to God, our talents will improve, and we shall have more and more ability to render to the Master. We shall become channels of light to others.

We can have a close connection with God and with our Saviour; and when we are connected with God, we shall be all light in the Lord, for in Him is no darkness at all.

As we learn of Christ, we shall understand how to keep our spiritual strength, we shall feed on the Word of God, and we shall have the blessed experience described by the apostle in these words: “*Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory*” (1 Peter 1:8).

Daily Scripture

Sabbath, April 26th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 59

Deliver Me from My Enemies

- Psa 59:1 **To the chief Musician, Altaschith, Michtam of David; when Saul sent, and they watched the house to kill him.** Deliver me from mine enemies, O my God: defend me from them that rise up against me.
- Psa 59:2 Deliver me from the workers of iniquity, and save me from bloody men.
- Psa 59:3 For, lo, they lie in wait for my soul: the mighty are gathered against me; not *for* my transgression, nor *for* my sin, O LORD.
- Psa 59:4 They run and prepare themselves without *my* fault: awake to help me, and behold.
- Psa 59:5 Thou therefore, O LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel, awake to visit all the heathen: be not merciful to any wicked transgressors. Selah.
- Psa 59:6 They return at evening: they make a noise like a dog, and go round about the city.
- Psa 59:7 Behold, they belch out with their mouth: swords *are* in their lips: for who, *say they*, doth hear?
- Psa 59:8 But thou, O LORD, shalt laugh at them; thou shalt have all the heathen in derision.
- Psa 59:9 *Because of* his strength will I wait upon thee: for God *is* my defence.
- Psa 59:10 The God of my mercy shall prevent me: God shall let me see *my desire* upon mine enemies.
- Psa 59:11 Slay them not, lest my people forget: scatter them by thy power; and bring them down, O Lord our shield.
- Psa 59:12 *For* the sin of their mouth *and* the words of their lips let them even be taken in their pride: and for cursing and lying *which* they speak.
- Psa 59:13 Consume *them* in wrath, consume *them*, that they *may* not *be*: and let them know that God rules in Jacob unto the ends of the earth. Selah.
- Psa 59:14 And at evening let them return; *and* let them make a noise like a dog, and go round about the city.
- Psa 59:15 Let them wander up and down for meat, and grudge if they be not satisfied.
- Psa 59:16 But I will sing of thy power; yea, I will sing aloud of thy mercy in the morning: for thou hast been my defence and refuge in the day of my trouble.
- Psa 59:17 Unto thee, O my strength, will I sing: for God *is* my defence, *and* the God of my mercy.



PeiPei [PAY-pay] loves his little sister, Shim-Shim, very much. He loves her so much that he wants to include her in all the good things that happen in his life. When he is smiling, he wants her to smile. When he is laughing, he wants her to laugh. And when he gets a special treat, he wants her to get a special treat. So, when a friend had a birthday and celebrated by giving PeiPei a cupcake at school, PeiPei also wanted for her to have a cupcake.

On the big day of the birthday, the birthday boy brought a bunch of yummy looking cupcakes to PeiPei’s school in Korat, Thailand, and put them on a classroom table. They looked so delicious with frosting on top. Each boy and girl took a cupcake from the table. They eagerly peeled off the wrappers and began eating. PeiPei also took a cupcake off the table. He also wanted to eat. But then he remembered his little sister. He wanted her to enjoy a cupcake, too. He looked back at the table and saw that a few extra cupcakes remained. He wondered if he could take one of those cupcakes to give to Shim-Shim at home.

He went to the teacher. “Could I please have one of those cupcakes?” he asked.

The teacher looked at PeiPei. She didn’t understand that he wanted a second cupcake to give to his little sister. She thought that he wanted a second cupcake for himself. But if he took a second cupcake, maybe the other boys and girls in the class also would want a second cupcake. There weren’t enough cupcakes for all the boys and girls to have a second cupcake.

The teacher shook her head. “No, there is only enough cupcakes for every boy and girl in our class to have one,” she said.

PeiPei looked down sadly. Then he looked at the other boys and girls in the classroom. They were still enjoying their cupcakes. He looked at his cupcake. He wanted to enjoy it, too. But he loved his little sister so much. He

decided to save his cupcake for her. He took the cupcake to his desk and carefully set it in a corner where it would be safe and sound until he could take it home.

The teacher saw the sad expression on Peipei’s face. She saw him go to his desk. She watched as he carefully set aside the cupcake without eating it. She went to Peipei.

“Why aren’t you eating your cupcake?” she asked.

Peipei explained that he was saving it for his little sister. He wanted her to enjoy the birthday celebration, too.

Now the teacher understood why Peipei had asked for a second cupcake. It wasn’t because he wanted to eat two cupcakes. It was because he loved his little sister and wanted to share the treat with her. When he couldn’t take a second cupcake, he had decided to give his cupcake to her.

The teacher’s heart was touched by Peipei’s sacrificial spirit. She went to the table with the cupcakes.

“Peipei, you can take a second cupcake to give to your little sister,” she said.

Peipei’s face lit up like the sun. He smiled radiantly as he took a second cupcake from the table. Now he could enjoy a cupcake — and his little sister could enjoy one, too!

Now, whenever one of Peipei’s friends has a birthday party at school, the teacher always gives Peipei an extra treat so he can take it home to his little sister.

Peipei is a missionary kid studying at Korat Adventist International School in Thailand.

Part of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering several years ago helped build the school. Just like Peipei showed a sacrificial spirit in being willing to give his cupcake to his sister, we can show a sacrificial spirit by giving up something for the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. Ask a grown-up for ideas on what you can do (see Story Tips sidebar).

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – April 27th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Exodus 3:5; Isaiah 6:1–5;

1. How did Isaiah react when in the presence of the Holy One?

➤ **Isaiah 6:1–5** —

NOTES : “When the servant of God is permitted to behold the glory of the God of heaven, as he is unveiled to humanity, and realises to a slight degree the purity of the Holy One of Israel, he will make startling confessions of the pollution of his soul, rather than proud boasts of his holiness. In deep humiliation Isaiah exclaimed, “Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips: . . . for mine eyes have seen the king, the Lord of hosts.” [Isaiah 6:5] This is not that voluntary humility and servile self-reproach that so many seem to consider it a virtue to display. This vague mockery of humility is prompted by hearts full of pride and self-esteem. There are many who demerit themselves in words, who would be disappointed if this course did not call forth expressions of praise and appreciation from others. But the conviction of the prophet was genuine. As humanity, with its weakness and deformity, was brought out in contrast with the perfection of divine holiness and light and glory, he felt altogether inefficient and unworthy. How could he go and speak to the people the holy requirements of Jehovah, who was high and lifted up, and whose train filled the temple?”—*Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, October 16th, 1888*

2. How was Moses told to regard God's presence?

➤ **Exodus 3:5** —

NOTES : “As we learn more and more of what God is, and of what we ourselves are in His sight, we shall fear and tremble before Him. Let men of today take warning from the fate of those who in ancient times presumed to make free with that which God had declared sacred.”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 8, p. 283*

“You must respect your own faith in order successfully to introduce it to others. By example as well as precept, you must show that you reverence your faith, speaking reverently of sacred things. Never allow one expression of lightness and trifling to escape your lips when quoting scripture. As you take the Bible in your hands, remember that you are on holy ground. Angels are around you, and could your eyes be opened, you would behold them. Let your conduct be such that you will leave the impression upon every soul with whom you associate that a pure and holy atmosphere surrounds you. One vain word, one trifling laugh, may balance a soul in the wrong direction. Terrible are the consequences of not having a constant connection with God.”—*Christian Education, page 93*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sunday, April 27th, 2025

[Exodus 3:5]

↪ ⁵ And He said, **Draw not nigh hither: put off your shoes from off your feet, for the place whereon you stand *is* holy ground.**

[Isaiah 6:1-5]

↪ ¹ In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also The Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

² Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.

³ And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* The LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of His glory.

⁴ And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.

⁵ Then said I, Woe *is* me! for I am undone; because I *am* a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen The King, The LORD of Hosts.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, April 27th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 124

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 27th

Trust When You Make Mistakes

My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved.

Psalm 62:5, 6

To each one of us has been given the inestimable privilege of being a child of God. Why, then, should we be unhappy? We are all sinful, but we have a Saviour who can take away our sins, for in Him is no sin. We all have many difficulties to meet, many perplexing problems to solve. But we have an all-powerful Helper, who will listen to our requests as willingly and gladly as He listened to the requests of those who, when He was on this earth in person, came to Him for help....

Do you make mistakes? Do not let this discourage you. The Lord may permit you to make small mistakes in order to save you from making larger mistakes. Go to Jesus, and ask Him to forgive you, and then believe that He does. *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* [1 John 1:9]

When discouragement presses heavily upon you, read the following scriptures: ...

“Deep calls unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me. Yet the Lord will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life. I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy? ... Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God” (Psalm 42:7-11).

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.” [Psalm 46:1-3] *“For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death.”* {Psalm 48:14]

Daily Scripture

Sunday, April 27th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 60

He Will Tread Down Our Foes

- Psa 60:1 **To the chief Musician upon Shushaneduth, Michtam of David, to teach; when he strove with Aramnaharaim and with Aramzobah, when Joab returned, and smote of Edom in the valley of salt twelve thousand.** O God, thou hast cast us off, thou hast scattered us, thou hast been displeased; O turn thyself to us again.
- Psa 60:2 Thou hast made the earth to tremble; thou hast broken it: heal the breaches thereof; for it shakes.
- Psa 60:3 Thou hast shewed thy people hard things: thou hast made us to drink the wine of astonishment.
- Psa 60:4 Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah.
- Psa 60:5 That thy beloved may be delivered; save *with* thy right hand, and hear me.
- Psa 60:6 God has spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth.
- Psa 60:7 Gilead *is* mine, and Manasseh *is* mine; Ephraim also *is* the strength of mine head; Judah *is* my lawgiver;
- Psa 60:8 Moab *is* my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe: Philistia, triumph thou because of me.
- Psa 60:9 Who will bring me *into* the strong city? who will lead me into Edom?
- Psa 60:10 *Wilt* not thou, O God, *which* had cast us off? and *thou*, O God, *which* didst not go out with our armies?
- Psa 60:11 Give us help from trouble: for vain *is* the help of man.
- Psa 60:12 Through God we shall do valiantly: for he *it is that* shall tread down our enemies.

Monday – April 28th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Leviticus 19:30; Leviticus 26:2; Psalm 19:7-9; Romans 7:12;

1. How are we to regard the place and day of worship?

➤ **Leviticus 19:30** —

➤ **Leviticus 26:2** —

NOTES : “Another precious grace that should be carefully cherished is reverence. True reverence for God is inspired by a sense of His infinite greatness and a realisation of His presence. With this sense of the Unseen the heart of every child should be deeply impressed. The hour and place of prayer and the services of public worship the child should be taught to regard as sacred because God is there. And as reverence is manifested in attitude and demeanour, the feeling that inspires it will be deepened.”—*Education, page 242*

“In order to keep the Sabbath holy, it is not necessary that we enclose ourselves in walls, shut away from the beautiful scenes of nature and from the free, invigorating air of heaven. We should in no case allow burdens and business transactions to divert our minds upon the Sabbath of the Lord, which He has sanctified. We should not allow our minds to dwell upon things of a worldly character even. But the mind cannot be refreshed, enlivened, and elevated by being confined nearly all the Sabbath hours within walls, listening to long sermons and tedious, formal prayers. The Sabbath of the Lord is put to a wrong use if thus celebrated. The object for which it was instituted is not attained. The Sabbath was made for man, to be a blessing to him by calling his mind from secular labour to contemplate the goodness and glory of God. It is necessary that the people of God assemble to talk of Him, to interchange thoughts and ideas in regard to the truths contained in His word, and to devote a portion of time to appropriate prayer. But these seasons, even upon the Sabbath, should not be made tedious by their length and lack of interest.”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 2, p. 583*

2. How does Paul describe the Law of God?

➤ **Romans 7:12** —

NOTES : “No man can gain eternal life without holiness; hence the question of deepest interest with each of us should be, “Am I meeting the requirements of God? Am I doing His will? Am I forming a character that He can approve?” And where shall we find the will of God expressed, except in the moral law, that law which has been given to us as the standard of righteousness, to reveal to us the defects in our moral character; that law which Paul declares to be holy, just, and good? Of this law the psalmist says: “The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.” [Psalm 19:7-9]”—*Bible Echo, June 1st, 1887*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Monday, April 28th, 2025

[Leviticus 19:30]

☞ ³⁰ You shall keep My Sabbaths, and reverence My sanctuary: I *am* The LORD.

[Leviticus 26:2]

☞ ² You shall keep My Sabbaths, and reverence My sanctuary: I *am* The LORD.

[Psalms 19:7-9]

☞ ⁷ The law of The LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of The LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.

⁸ The statutes of The LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of The LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes.

⁹ The fear of The LORD *is* clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of The LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.

[Romans 7:12]

☞ ¹² Wherefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, April 28th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 125

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 28th

The Garden of God’s Promises

For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Hebrews 10:36

The promises of God are like precious flowers scattered through a garden. The Lord would have us linger over them, looking closely into them, taking in their loveliness, and appreciating the favour that God has bestowed upon us by making such rich provisions for our needs. Were it not for contemplation of the promises of God, we could not understand the gracious love and compassion of God toward us or realize how rich were the treasures prepared for those who love Him. He would have the soul encouraged to repose in faith upon Him, the only sufficiency of the human agent.

We are to send our petitions through the darkest clouds that Satan may cast over us, and let our faith pierce to the throne of God encircled by the rainbow of promise, the assurance that God is true, that in Him is no variableness neither shadow of turning. The answer may appear to be delayed, but it is not so. The petition is accepted, and the answer given when it is essential for the best good of the petitioner and when the fulfillment of the request will work most for our eternal interest. God scatters His blessings all along our path to brighten our heavenward journey....

We are to come before the mercy seat with reverence, calling up to our mind the promises that God has given, contemplating the goodness of God, and offering up thankful praises for His unchangeable love. We are not to trust in our finite prayers, but in the word of our heavenly Father, in His assurance of His love for us. Believing the promise of His unchanging love, we press our petitions to the throne of grace. Our faith may be tested by delay, but the prophet has given instruction as to what we should do. He says, “*Who is among you that fears the Lord, that obeys the voice of his servant, that walks in darkness, and has no light? let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon his God.*” (Isaiah 50:10)

Wait upon the Lord; He has made the promise and is back of the assurance.... He who hungers and thirsts after righteousness will be filled.

Daily Scripture

Monday, April 28th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 61

Lead Me to the Rock

- Psa 61:1 **To the chief Musician upon Neginah, A Psalm of David.** Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer.
- Psa 61:2 From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock *that* is higher than I.
- Psa 61:3 For thou hast been a shelter for me, *and* a strong tower from the enemy.
- Psa 61:4 I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Selah.
- Psa 61:5 For thou, O God, hast heard my vows: thou hast given *me* the heritage of those that fear thy name.
- Psa 61:6 Thou wilt prolong the king's life: *and* his years as many generations.
- Psa 61:7 He shall abide before God for ever: O prepare mercy and truth, *which* may preserve him.
- Psa 61:8 So will I sing praise unto thy name for ever, that I may daily perform my vows.

Tuesday – April 29th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Exodus 31:16; Exodus 35:2; 2 Peter 2:21;

1. What does Peter say of those who, having known the holiness of God's Commandments, turn their back on God's Law?

➤ **2 Peter 2:21** —

NOTES : “God's character is expressed in His law; and he who keeps that law, must walk even as Christ walked, revealing in his life the excellence of its principles, which are holy, just, and good. But with a large number of church members, very little attention is given to God's great standard of righteousness. They are not doers of the words of Jesus. They neither love God supremely, nor their neighbour as themselves. There is very little Christlike sympathy and compassion, forbearance, and love, woven into their life experience. These are, in truth, commandment breakers, and thus they stand registered in the books of heaven.”—*Home Missionary, October 1st, 1897*

2. How does the Lord describe the Sabbath day?

➤ **Exodus 35:2** —

NOTES : “To us as to Israel the Sabbath is given “for a perpetual covenant.” [Exodus 31:16] To those who reverence His holy day, the Sabbath is a sign that God recognises them as His chosen people. It is a pledge that He will fulfil to them His covenant. Every soul who accepts the sign of God's government places himself under the divine, everlasting covenant. He fastens himself to the golden chain of obedience, every link of which is a promise.”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 6, p. 350*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, April 29th, 2025

[Exodus 31:16]

↳ ¹⁶ Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, *for* a perpetual covenant.

[Exodus 35:2]

↳ ² Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day there shall be to you an holy day, a Sabbath of rest to The LORD: whosoever does work therein shall be put to death.

[2 Peter 2:21]

↳ ²¹ For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, April 29th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 4, p. 126

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 29th

Feelings Not a Test

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised).

Hebrews 10:23

The religion of Christ is not a religion of mere emotion. You cannot depend upon your feelings for an evidence of acceptance with God, for feelings are variable. You must plant your feet on the promises of God’s Word ... and learn to live by faith.

As soon as one begins to contemplate his feelings he is on dangerous ground. If he feels happy and joyous, then he is very confident and has very pleasing emotions. The change will come. There are circumstances that occur which bring depression and sad feelings; then the mind will naturally begin to doubt whether the Lord is with him or not.

Now, the feelings must not be made the test of the spiritual state, be they good or be they discouraging. The word of God is to be our evidence of our true standing before Him. Many are bewildered on this point....

If you confess your sins, believe they are pardoned, because the promise is positive. *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* (1 John 1:9). Why, then, dishonour God by doubting His pardoning love? Having confessed your sins, believe that the word of God will not fail, but that He is faithful that has promised. It is just as much your duty to believe that God will fulfill His word and forgive your sins as it is your duty to confess your sins. Your faith must be exercised in God as one who will do just as He has said He would do—pardon all your transgressions....

Oh, how very many go mourning, sinning and repenting, but always under a cloud of condemnation! They do not believe the word of the Lord. They do not believe that He will do just as He said He would do.... You hurt the heart of Christ by doubting, when He has given us such evidences of His love in giving His own life to save us that we should not perish but have everlasting life.

We must trust; we must educate and train our souls to believe the word of God implicitly.

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, April 29th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 62

My Soul Waits for God Alone

- Psa 62:1 **To the chief Musician, to Jeduthun, A Psalm of David.** Truly my soul waits upon God: from him *cometh* my salvation.
- Psa 62:2 He only *is* my rock and my salvation; *he is* my defence; I shall not be greatly moved.
- Psa 62:3 How long will ye imagine mischief against a man? ye shall be slain all of you: as a bowing wall *shall ye be, and as* a tottering fence.
- Psa 62:4 They only consult to cast *him* down from his excellency: they delight in lies: they bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly. Selah.
- Psa 62:5 My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation *is* from him.
- Psa 62:6 He only *is* my rock and my salvation: *he is* my defence; I shall not be moved.
- Psa 62:7 In God *is* my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, *and* my refuge, *is* in God.
- Psa 62:8 Trust in him at all times; *ye* people, pour out your heart before him: God *is* a refuge for us. Selah.
- Psa 62:9 Surely men of low degree *are* vanity, *and* men of high degree *are* a lie: to be laid in the balance, they *are* altogether *lighter* than vanity.
- Psa 62:10 Trust not in oppression, and become not vain in robbery: if riches increase, set not your heart *upon them*.
- Psa 62:11 God has spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power *belongs* unto God.
- Psa 62:12 Also unto thee, O Lord, *belongs* mercy: for thou render to every man according to his work.

Wednesday – April 30th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Leviticus 10:10; Isaiah 58:12–14;

1. How does God describe true Sabbath-keeping and what promises does He make to those who remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy?

➤ **Isaiah 58:12–14** —

NOTES : “The Sabbath is a golden clasp that unites God and His people. But the Sabbath command has been broken. God's holy day has been desecrated. The Sabbath has been torn from its place by the man of sin, and a common working day has been exalted in its stead. A breach has been made in the law, and this breach is to be repaired. The true Sabbath is to be exalted to its rightful position as God's rest day. In the fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah is outlined the work which God's people are to do. They are to magnify the law and make it honourable, to build up the old waste places, and to raise up the foundations of many generations. To those who do this work God says: “Thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.” [Isiah 58:12]”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 6, p. 351*

2. What distinction does God ask His people to make?

➤ **Leviticus 10:10** —

NOTES : “The Lord himself has established a separating wall between the things of the world and the things which he has chosen out of the world and sanctified to himself. The world will not acknowledge this distinction; they claim that it is needless. The servants of mammon make every effort to break down the barriers, and destroy the line of demarcation between the holy and the profane. Many of the professed followers of Christ are determined to break it down, and to maintain concord between Christ and Belial. But God has made this separation, and he will have it exist. In both the Old and the New Testaments the Lord has positively enjoined upon his people to be distinct from the world, in spirit, in pursuits, in practice, to be a holy nation, a peculiar people, that they may show forth the praises of him who hath called them out of darkness into his marvellous light. The east is not farther from the west than are the children of light, in customs, practices, and spirit, from the children of darkness.”—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, January 8th , 1884*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, April 30th, 2025

[Leviticus 10:10]

☞ ¹⁰ And that you may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean;

[Isaiah 58:12-14]

☞ ¹² And *they that shall be* of you shall build the old waste places: you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; and you shall be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

¹³ If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, *from* doing your pleasure on my holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of The LORD, honourable; and shall honour Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking *your own* words:

¹⁴ Then shall you delight yourself in The LORD; and I will cause you to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father: for the mouth of The LORD has spoken *it*.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, April 30th, 2025

*In Heavenly Places,
Chapter 4, p. 127*

“Angels and the Test of Faith”

April 30th

The Sure Anchor of Faith

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that has this hope in him purifies himself, even as he is pure.

1 John 3:2, 3

Here the eye of faith is directed to God, to look to the unseen, not upon the things that are now apparent. Faith lives in expectation of a future good; it discerns inexpressible advantages in the heavenly gift. The hope of the future life is an essential part of our Christian faith. When we allow worldly attractions to come in between the soul and God, the world is all we can discern.... Look up higher, fix the eye of faith upon things unseen, and you will become strong in the divine strength.

Our faith increases by beholding Jesus, who is the centre of all that is attractive and lovely. The more we contemplate the heavenly, the less we see desirable and attractive in the earthly. The more continually we fix the eye of faith on Christ, in whom our hopes of eternal life are centered, the more our faith grows; our hope strengthens, our love becomes more intense and fervent, with the clearness of our spiritual insight, and our spiritual intelligence increases. More and more we realize the positive claim of God upon us to purify ourselves from the customs and practices of a world that knows not God, nor Jesus Christ whom He has sent.

The more we behold Christ, talk of His merits, and tell of His power, the more fully we shall reflect His image in our own characters and the less we shall submit our minds and affections to the paralyzing influences of the world. The more our minds dwell upon Jesus, the less they will be enveloped in the fog of doubt, and the more easily shall we lay all our trials, all our burdens, upon the Burden Bearer....

Let faith pierce through the hellish shadow of Satan and centre in Jesus, our high priest, who has entered for us within the veil. Whatever clouds overcast the sky, whatever storms surge around the soul, this anchor holds firm, and we may be sure of victory.

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, April 30th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 63

My Soul Thirsts for You

- Psa 63:1 **A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.** O God, thou *art* my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsts for thee, my flesh longs for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;
- Psa 63:2 To see thy power and thy glory, so *as* I have seen thee in the sanctuary.
- Psa 63:3 Because thy lovingkindness *is* better than life, my lips shall praise thee.
- Psa 63:4 Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.
- Psa 63:5 My soul shall be satisfied as *with* marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise *thee* with joyful lips:
- Psa 63:6 When I remember thee upon my bed, *and* meditate on thee in the *night* watches.
- Psa 63:7 Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.
- Psa 63:8 My soul follows hard after thee: thy right hand upholds me.
- Psa 63:9 But those *that* seek my soul, to destroy *it*, shall go into the lower parts of the earth.
- Psa 63:10 They shall fall by the sword: they shall be a portion for foxes.
- Psa 63:11 But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that swears by him shall glory: but the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped.

Thursday – May 1st

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Leviticus 19:2; Numbers 15:38-41; Isaiah 62:12; Daniel 5:27;

1. What does the Lord require of His people?

➤ **Leviticus 19:2** —

NOTES : “I was referred to Numbers 15: “Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribbon of blue: and it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the Lord, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring: that ye may remember, and do all My commandments, and be holy unto your God. I am the Lord your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I am the Lord your God.” [Numbers 15:38-41] Here God expressly commanded a very simple arrangement of dress for the children of Israel for the purpose of distinguishing them from the idolatrous nations around them. As they looked upon their peculiarity of dress, they were to remember that they were God's commandment-keeping people, and that He had wrought in a miraculous manner to bring them from Egyptian bondage to serve Him, to be a holy people unto Him. They were not to serve their own desires, or to imitate the idolatrous nations around them, but to remain a distinct, separate people, that all who looked upon them might say: These are they whom God brought out of the land of Egypt, who keep the law of Ten Commandments. An Israelite was known to be such as soon as seen, for God through simple means distinguished him as His.”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 524*

2. How are the final generation of God's people who are ready for His coming described?

➤ **Isaiah 62:12** —

NOTES : “It is God's purpose that His people shall be a sanctified, purified, holy people, communicating light to all around them. It is His purpose that, by exemplifying the truth in their lives, they shall be a praise in the earth. The grace of Christ is sufficient to bring this about. But let God's people remember that only as they believe and work out the principles of the gospel can He make them a praise in the earth. Only as they use their God-given capabilities in His service will they enjoy the fullness and power of the promise whereon the church has been called to stand. If those who profess to believe in Christ as their Saviour reach only the low standard of worldly measurement, the church fails to bear the rich harvest that God expects. “Found wanting” [Daniel 5:27] is written upon her record.”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 8, p. 14*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Thursday, May 1st, 2025

[Leviticus 19:2]

- ☞ ² Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, You shall be holy: for I The LORD your God *am* holy.

[Numbers 15:38-41]

- ☞ ³⁸ Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribbon of blue:
³⁹ And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that you may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of The LORD, and do them; and that you seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which you use to go a whoring:
⁴⁰ That you may remember, and do all My commandments, and be holy unto your God.
⁴¹ I *am* The LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I *am* The LORD your God.

[Isaiah 62:12]

- ☞ ¹² And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of The LORD: and you shall be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken.

[Daniel 5:25-28]

- ☞ ²⁵ And this *is* the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.
²⁶ This *is* the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it.
²⁷ TEKEL; You are weighed in the balances, and are found wanting.
²⁸ PERES; Your kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, May 1st, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 128

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 1st

The Heavenly Father’s Claim

O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!

Deuteronomy 5:29

God stands toward His people in the relation of a father, and He has a father’s claim to our faithful service. Consider the life of Christ. Standing at the head of humanity, serving His Father, He is an example of what every son should and may be. The obedience that Christ rendered, God requires from human beings today. He served His Father in love, with willingness and freedom. *“I delight to do thy will, O my God,”* He declared: *“yea, thy law is within my heart.”* (Psalm 40:8). Christ counted no sacrifice too great, no toil too hard, in order to accomplish the work which He came to do. At the age of twelve He said, *“Wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?”* (Luke 2:49). He had heard the call, and had taken up the work. *“My meat,”* He said, *“is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.”* (John 4:34)

Thus we are to serve God. He only serves who acts up to the highest standard of obedience. All who would be sons and daughters of God must prove themselves co-workers with Christ and God and the heavenly angels. This is the test for every soul....

God’s great object in the working out of His providences is to try men, to give them opportunity to develop character. Thus He proves whether they are obedient or disobedient to His commands. Good works do not purchase the love of God, but they reveal that we possess that love. If we surrender the will to God, we shall not work in order to earn God’s love. His love as a free gift will be received into the soul, and from love to Him we shall delight to obey His commandments.

There are only two classes in the world today, and only two classes will be recognized in the judgment—those who violate God’s law and those who obey it. Christ gives the test by which we prove our loyalty or disloyalty. *“If ye love me,”* He says, *“keep my commandments.... He that has my commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves me ...”* (John 14:15-21).

Daily Scripture

Thursday, May 1st, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 64

Hide Me from the Wicked

- Psa 64:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.** Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy.
- Psa 64:2 Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked; from the insurrection of the workers of iniquity:
- Psa 64:3 Who whet their tongue like a sword, *and* bend *their bows to shoot* their arrows, *even* bitter words:
- Psa 64:4 That they may shoot in secret at the perfect: suddenly do they shoot at him, and fear not.
- Psa 64:5 They encourage themselves *in* an evil matter: they commune of laying snares privily; they say, Who shall see them?
- Psa 64:6 They search out iniquities; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward *thought* of every one of *them*, and the heart, *is* deep.
- Psa 64:7 But God shall shoot at them *with* an arrow; suddenly shall they be wounded.
- Psa 64:8 So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves: all that see them shall flee away.
- Psa 64:9 And all men shall fear, and shall declare the work of God; for they shall wisely consider of his doing.
- Psa 64:10 The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory.

Preparation Day – May 2nd

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 5:8; Hebrews 12:14; 1 John 3:2-3; 1 Peter 1:15-16;

1. Can God's people see God without being holy?

➤ **Hebrews 12:14** —

➤ **1 John 3:2-3** —

➤ **Matthew 5:8** —

NOTES : “God has commanded us, “Be ye holy; for I am holy;” [1 Peter 1:15-16] and an inspired apostle declares that without holiness “no man shall see the Lord.” [Hebrews 12:14] Holiness is agreement with God. By sin the image of God in man has been marred and well-nigh obliterated; it is the work of the gospel to restore that which has been lost; and we are to co-operate with the divine agency in this work.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 743*

2. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, May 2nd, 2025

[Matthew 5:8]

☞ ⁸ Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

[Hebrews 12:14]

☞ ¹⁴ Follow peace with all *men*, and holiness, without which no man shall see The Lord:

[1 Peter 1:15-16]

☞ ¹⁵ But as He which has called you is holy, so you be holy in all manner of conversation;

¹⁶ Because it is written, You be holy; for I am holy.

[1 John 3:2-3]

☞ ² Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.

³ And every man that has this hope in Him purifies himself, even as He is pure.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, May 2nd, 2025

*In Heavenly Places,
Chapter 5, p. 129*

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 2nd

Our Example in Obedience

For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth.

1 Peter 2:21, 22

Before us is held out the wonderful possibility of being like Christ—obedient to all the principles of the law of God. But of ourselves we are utterly powerless to attain to this condition. All that is good in man comes to him through Christ. The holiness that God’s Word declares we must have before we can be saved is the result of the working of divine grace as we bow in submission to the discipline and restraining influence of the Spirit of truth.

Man’s obedience can be made perfect only by the incense of Christ’s righteousness, which fills with divine fragrance every act of true obedience. The part of the Christian is to persevere in overcoming every fault. Constantly he is to pray to the Saviour to heal the disorders of his diseased soul. He has not the wisdom and strength without which he cannot overcome. They belong to the Lord, and He bestows them on those who in humiliation and contrition seek Him for help.

The work of transformation from unholiness to holiness is a continuous work. Day by day God labours for man’s sanctification, and man is to cooperate with Him by putting forth persevering efforts in the cultivation of right habits....

God will more than fulfill the highest expectations of those who put their trust in Him. He desires us to remember that when we are humble and contrite, we stand where He can and will manifest Himself to us. He is well pleased when we urge past mercies and blessings as a reason why He should bestow on us higher and greater blessings. He is honoured when we love Him and bear testimony to the genuineness of our love by keeping His commandments. He is honoured when we set apart the seventh day as sacred and holy. To those who do this, the Sabbath is a sign, ... God declares, “*that I am the Lord that sanctify them.*” (Ezekiel 20:12). Sanctification means habitual communion with God. There is nothing so great and powerful as God’s love for those who are His children.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, May 2nd, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 65

Hide Me from the Wicked

- Psa 64:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.** Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy.
- Psa 64:2 Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked; from the insurrection of the workers of iniquity:
- Psa 64:3 Who whet their tongue like a sword, *and* bend *their bows to shoot* their arrows, *even* bitter words:
- Psa 64:4 That they may shoot in secret at the perfect: suddenly do they shoot at him, and fear not.
- Psa 64:5 They encourage themselves *in* an evil matter: they commune of laying snares privily; they say, Who shall see them?
- Psa 64:6 They search out iniquities; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward *thought* of every one of *them*, and the heart, *is* deep.
- Psa 64:7 But God shall shoot at them *with* an arrow; suddenly shall they be wounded.
- Psa 64:8 So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves: all that see them shall flee away.
- Psa 64:9 And all men shall fear, and shall declare the work of God; for they shall wisely consider of his doing.
- Psa 64:10 The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, May 2nd, 2025



Twelve-year-old Pada [PA-da] couldn't understand why his older brother had left the family faith to join the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Thailand.

“Why have you become an Adventist?” he asked his brother, Morja. [MORDG-a]

“Come live with me, and you'll see,” Morja replied.

Pada moved in with Morja.

The boy was the youngest in his family, and he really wanted to know why Morja had become an Adventist.

Morja was the oldest child and the family leader after their father's death when Pada was three months old.

Mom, who had six children to raise alone after Dad's death, was glad that Morja could help care for Pada.

Pada quickly saw that life was very different at Morja's house. Morja was 11 years older than Pada. He was already married and the father of three young boys.

Morja and his family did not eat pork, snakes, and mice like other mountain people living on the border of Thailand and Myanmar. Mountain people were very poor, and they ate whatever they could find. Morja and his family were not rich, but they only ate what Morja called “clean food.” Morja explained that the Bible forbade people from eating unclean food such as pork, snakes, and mice.

On Sunday, Pada helped on his brother's farm. He watched the water buffalo when Morja wasn't using them to plow the rice paddy. He watched the water buffalo again on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

On Saturday morning, Morja woke up Pada at 5 o'clock. It was still dark outside.

“It's time to get up and get ready for church,” Morja said.

Pada wasn't happy. He wanted to sleep. But he respected his brother and needed to listen to him. He also remembered that he had wanted to know why Morja had become an Adventist. Maybe he would find out at church.

Pada got up and joined his brother and the rest of the family for a simple breakfast of rice and vegetables. Morja's wife had prepared the meal on Friday.

After eating, Pada accompanied Morja, Morja's wife, and their three children on a long walk to church.

There was no Adventist church in their small town, and they needed to walk eight miles (13 kilometers) to the nearest church in another town.

Morja picked up one small son and carried him in a cloth wrapped around his back. Morja's wife picked up a second son and carried him in a cloth wrapped around her back.

Pada walked with their oldest boy, who was 6.

The family of six walked for three hours. They climbed mountain paths. They trooped through rice paddies. They navigated rivers. Finally, they arrived at the Adventist church in time for Sabbath School.

Pada liked the worship service. The Adventist pastor had three daughters who were about his age. The girls played the guitar and sang beautiful songs about Jesus.

After the worship service, Pada enjoyed a delicious lunch at the church. He especially liked a delicious pumpkin soup prepared by the pastor's wife.

While Pada's first visit to church was a good experience, he wasn't thrilled when his brother woke him up at 5 o'clock again the next Sabbath. He wanted to sleep, and he didn't look forward to the long walk to church. But once he arrived at church, he was happy to be there.

This is how it went every Sabbath after that. Pada grumbled in his heart as he got ready for church and took the long walk. But he always enjoyed the music and the food.

Thank you for your Sabbath School mission offerings that help proclaim the good news about Jesus' soon coming in Thailand and around the world. Find out next week how Pada decided to follow his brother's example and become a Seventh-day Adventist.

By Andrew McChesney

LESSON 6

“GOD IS LOVE”

May 3 — May 9

MEMORY VERSE : *“And we have known and believed the love that God has to us. God is love; and he that dwells in love, dwells in God, and God in him.” [1 John 4:16]*

STUDY HELP : ✓ Steps to Christ, pages 9 – 15

INTRODUCTION : “The revelation of God's love to man centres in the cross. Its full significance tongue cannot utter, pen cannot portray, the mind of man cannot comprehend. Looking upon the cross of Calvary, we can only say, *“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”* [John 3:16] Christ crucified for our sins, Christ risen from the dead, Christ ascended on high, is the science of salvation that we are to learn and to teach... It is through the gift of Christ that we receive every blessing. Through that gift there comes to us day by day the unending flow of Jehovah's goodness. Every flower, with its delicate tints and its fragrance, is given for our enjoyment through that one Gift. The sun and the moon were made by Him. There is not a star which beautifies the heavens that He did not make. Every drop of rain that falls, every ray of light shed upon our unthankful world, testifies to the love of God in Christ. Everything is supplied to us through the one unspeakable Gift, God's only-begotten Son. He was nailed to the cross that all these bounties might flow to God's workmanship.”—*The Ministry of Healing, p. 423-424*

Sabbath – May 3rd

LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 5:45; John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Galatians 6:14; Ephesians 3:19; 1 John 4: 19; Revelation 13:8;

1. What action supremely demonstrates God's love to man.

➤ John 3:16 —

NOTES : “The plan of salvation had been laid before the creation of the earth; for Christ is “the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world” [Revelation 13:8]; yet it was a struggle, even with the King of the universe, to yield up His Son to die for the guilty race. But “God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” [John 3:16] Oh, the mystery of redemption! the love of God for a world that did not love Him! Who can know the depths of that love which “passes knowledge”? [Ephesians 3:19] Through endless ages immortal minds, seeking to comprehend the mystery of that incomprehensible love, will wonder and adore.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets, page 63*

2. Does God love us because we love Him?

➤ Romans 5:8 —

➤ **Matthew 5:45** —

➤ **1 John 4:19** —

NOTES : “Who can measure the love of God? Angels cannot comprehend it; it is to them a depth of mystery that they cannot fathom. Angels marvel at the divine love manifested for fallen men; but men themselves remain indifferent and unimpressed. Few respond to the love of God. Few appreciate the marvellous love of Christ in his life of suffering, in his death of shame. Behold him humiliated, mocked, sent from Pilate to Herod, and from Herod to Pilate, condemned, crucified, suspended on the cross, a reproach of men, despised of the people. The sentence of condemnation that was merited by guilty man, angels saw fall upon the innocent Son of God, the loved Commander of their hosts. Well might they be astonished at the love that sustained the Sufferer, who died that we might live. Paul writes, “God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.” [Galatians 6:14] This should be the language of our hearts also. It is in the cross that our hopes of eternal life are centred; and as we look to Calvary, seeing what sin has done, how can we live any longer therein? It was our sin that caused the Son of God to humble himself unto death, even the death of the cross; and in him dwelt the fullness of the Godhead.”—*Signs of the Times, November 24th, 1890*

3. Heaven’s Hotline:

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, May 3rd, 2025

[Matthew 5:45]

☞ ⁴⁵ That you may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for He makes His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

[John 3:16]

☞ ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

[Romans 5:8]

☞ ⁸ But God commends His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

[Galatians 6:14]

☞ ¹⁴ But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world.

[Ephesians 3:19]

☞ ¹⁹ And to know the love of Christ, which passes knowledge, that you might be filled with all the fullness of God.

[1 John 4:19]

☞ ¹⁹ We love Him, because He first loved us.

[Revelation 13:8]

☞ ⁸ And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship Him, whose names are not written in the book of life of The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

E. G. W. Study Help

Sabbath, May 3rd, 2025

Steps to Christ Chapter 1, p. 9-15

“God’s Love for Man”

Nature and revelation alike testify of God's love. Our Father in heaven is the source of life, of wisdom, and of joy. Look at the wonderful and beautiful things of nature. Think of their marvellous adaptation to the needs and happiness, not only of man, but of all living creatures. The sunshine and the rain, that gladden and refresh the earth, the hills and seas and plains, all speak to us of the Creator's love. It is God who supplies the daily needs of all His creatures. In the beautiful words of the psalmist—

“The eyes of all wait upon You;
And You give them their meat in due season.
You open Your hand,
And satisfy the desire of every living thing.”

[Psalm 145:15-16]

God made man perfectly holy and happy; and the fair earth, as it came from the Creator's hand, bore no blight of decay or shadow of the curse. It is transgression of God's law--the law of love--that has brought woe and death. Yet even amid the suffering that results from sin, God's love is revealed. It is written that God cursed the ground for man's sake. Genesis 3:17. The thorn and the thistle--the difficulties and trials that make his life one of toil and care--were appointed for his good as a part of the training needful in God's plan for his uplifting from the ruin and degradation that sin has wrought. The world, though fallen, is not all sorrow and misery. In nature itself are messages of hope and comfort. There are flowers upon the thistles, and the thorns are covered with roses.

"God is love" is written upon every opening bud, upon every spire of springing grass. The lovely birds making the air vocal with their happy songs, the delicately tinted flowers in their perfection perfuming the air, the lofty trees of the forest with their rich foliage of living green -- all testify to the tender, fatherly care of our God and to His desire to make His children happy.

The word of God reveals His character. He Himself has declared His infinite love and pity. When Moses prayed, "Show me Thy glory," the Lord answered, "I will make all My goodness pass before thee." Exodus 33:18, 19. This is His glory. The Lord passed before Moses, and proclaimed, "The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin." Exodus 34:6, 7. He is "slow to anger, and of great kindness," "because He delights in mercy." Jonah 4:2; Micah 7:18.

God has bound our hearts to Him by unnumbered tokens in heaven and in earth. Through the things of nature, and the deepest and tenderest earthly ties that human hearts can know, He has sought to reveal Himself to us. Yet these but imperfectly represent His love. Though all these evidences have been given, the enemy of good blinded the minds of men, so that they looked upon God with fear; they thought of Him as severe and unforgiving. Satan led men to conceive of God as a being whose chief attribute is stern justice,--one who is a severe judge, a harsh, exacting creditor. He pictured the Creator as a being who is watching with jealous eye to discern the errors and mistakes of men, that He may visit judgments upon them. It was to remove this dark shadow, by revealing to the world the infinite love of God, that Jesus came to live among men.

The Son of God came from heaven to make manifest the Father. "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him." John 1:18. "Neither knows any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal Him." Matthew 11:27. When one of the disciples made the request, "Show us the Father," Jesus answered, "Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not

known Me, Philip? He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father; and how say thou then, Show us the Father?" John 14:8, 9.

In describing His earthly mission, Jesus said, The Lord "hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised." Luke 4:18. This was His work. He went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by Satan. There were whole villages where there was not a moan of sickness in any house, for He had passed through them and healed all their sick. His work gave evidence of His divine anointing. Love, mercy, and compassion were revealed in every act of His life; His heart went out in tender sympathy to the children of men. He took man's nature, that He might reach man's wants. The poorest and humblest were not afraid to approach Him. Even little children were attracted to Him. They loved to climb upon His knees and gaze into the pensive face, benignant with love.

Jesus did not suppress one word of truth, but He uttered it always in love. He exercised the greatest tact and thoughtful, kind attention in His intercourse with the people. He was never rude, never needlessly spoke a severe word, never gave needless pain to a sensitive soul. He did not censure human weakness. He spoke the truth, but always in love. He denounced hypocrisy, unbelief, and iniquity; but tears were in His voice as He uttered His scathing rebukes. He wept over Jerusalem, the city He loved, which refused to receive Him, the way, the truth, and the life. They had rejected Him, the Saviour, but He regarded them with pitying tenderness. His life was one of self-denial and thoughtful care for others. Every soul was precious in His eyes. While He ever bore Himself with divine dignity, He bowed with the tenderest regard to every member of the family of God. In all men He saw fallen souls whom it was His mission to save.

Such is the character of Christ as revealed in His life. This is the character of God. It is from the Father's heart that the streams of divine compassion, manifest in Christ, flow out to the children of men. Jesus, the tender, pitying Saviour, was God "manifest in the flesh." 1 Timothy 3:16.

It was to redeem us that Jesus lived and suffered and died. He became "a Man of Sorrows," that we might be made partakers of everlasting joy. God permitted His beloved Son, full of grace and truth, to come from a world of indescribable glory, to a world marred and blighted with sin, darkened with the shadow of death and the curse. He permitted Him to leave the bosom of His love, the adoration of the angels, to suffer shame, insult, humiliation, hatred, and death. "The chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed." Isaiah 53:5. Behold Him in the wilderness, in Gethsemane, upon the cross! The spotless Son of God took upon Himself the burden of sin. He who had been one with God, felt in His soul the awful separation that sin makes between God and man. This wrung from His lips the anguished cry, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" Matthew 27:46. It was the burden of sin, the sense of its terrible enormity, of its separation of the soul from God--it was this that broke the heart of the Son of God.

But this great sacrifice was not made in order to create in the Father's heart a love for man, not to make Him willing to save. No, no! "God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son." John 3:16. The Father loves us, not because of the great propitiation, but He provided the propitiation because He loves us. Christ was the medium through which He could pour out His infinite love upon a fallen world. "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself." 2 Corinthians 5:19. God suffered with His Son. In the agony of Gethsemane, the death of Calvary, the heart of Infinite Love paid the price of our redemption.

Jesus said, "Therefore doth My Father love Me, because I lay down My life, that I might take it again." John 10:17. That is, "My Father has so loved you that He even loves Me more for giving My life to redeem you. In becoming your Substitute and Surety, by surrendering My life, by taking your liabilities, your transgressions, I am endeared to My Father; for by My sacrifice, God can be just, and yet the Justifier of him who believeth in Jesus."

None but the Son of God could accomplish our redemption; for only He who was in the bosom of the Father could declare Him. Only He who knew the height and depth of the love of God could make it manifest. Nothing less than the infinite sacrifice made by Christ in behalf of fallen man could express the Father's love to lost humanity.

"God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son." He gave Him not only to live among men, to bear their sins, and die their sacrifice. He gave Him to the fallen race. Christ was to identify Himself with the interests and needs of humanity. He who was one with God has linked Himself with the children of men by ties that are never to be broken. Jesus is "not ashamed to call them brethren" (Hebrews 2:11); He is our Sacrifice, our Advocate, our Brother, bearing our human form before the Father's throne, and through eternal ages one with the race He has redeemed--the Son of man. And all this that man might be uplifted from the ruin and degradation of sin that he might reflect the love of God and share the joy of holiness.

The price paid for our redemption, the infinite sacrifice of our heavenly Father in giving His Son to die for us, should give us exalted conceptions of what we may become through Christ. As the inspired apostle John beheld the height, the depth, the breadth of the Father's love toward the perishing race, he was filled with adoration and reverence; and, failing to find suitable language in which to express the greatness and tenderness of this love, he called upon the world to behold it. "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God." 1 John 3:1. What a value this places upon man! Through transgression the sons of man become subjects of Satan. Through faith in the atoning sacrifice of Christ the sons of Adam may become the sons of God. By assuming human nature, Christ elevates humanity. Fallen men are placed where, through connection with Christ, they may indeed become worthy of the name "sons of God."

Such love is without a parallel. Children of the heavenly King! Precious promise! Theme for the most profound meditation! The matchless love of God for a world that did not love Him! The thought has a subduing power upon the soul and brings the mind into captivity to the will of God. The more we study the divine character in the light of the cross, the more we see mercy, tenderness, and forgiveness blended with equity and justice, and the more clearly we discern innumerable evidences of a love that is infinite and a tender pity surpassing a mother's yearning sympathy for her wayward child.

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, May 3rd, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 130

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 3rd

Building on Christ

Therefore thus says the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

Isaiah 28:16

“Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.” (1 Corinthians 3:11). *“There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”* (Acts 4:12). Christ the Word, the revelation of God—the manifestation of His character, His law, His love, His life—is the only foundation upon which we can build a character that will endure.

We build on Christ by obeying His word. It is not he who merely enjoys righteousness, that is righteous, but he who does righteousness. Holiness is not rapture; it is the result of surrendering all to God; it is doing the will of our heavenly Father.

Religion consists in doing the words of Christ; not doing to earn God’s favour, but because, all undeserving, we have received the gift of His love. Christ places the salvation of man, not upon profession merely, but upon faith that is made manifest in works of righteousness. *“As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.”* (Romans 8:14). Not those whose hearts are touched by the Spirit, not those who now and then yield to its power, but they that are led by the Spirit, are the sons of God.

We are to be sons and daughters of God, growing into a holy temple in the Lord. *“No more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; ... built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.”* (Ephesians 2:19, 20). This is our privilege....

Every character is to be weighed in the balances of the sanctuary; if the moral character and spiritual advancement do not correspond with the opportunities and blessings, “wanting” is written against the name. The Light of the world is our leader, and the path has been growing brighter and brighter as we have advanced in the footsteps of Jesus. O that we may keep close to our Leader! ... Those who humbly study the character of Jesus will reflect His image more and more.

Daily Scripture

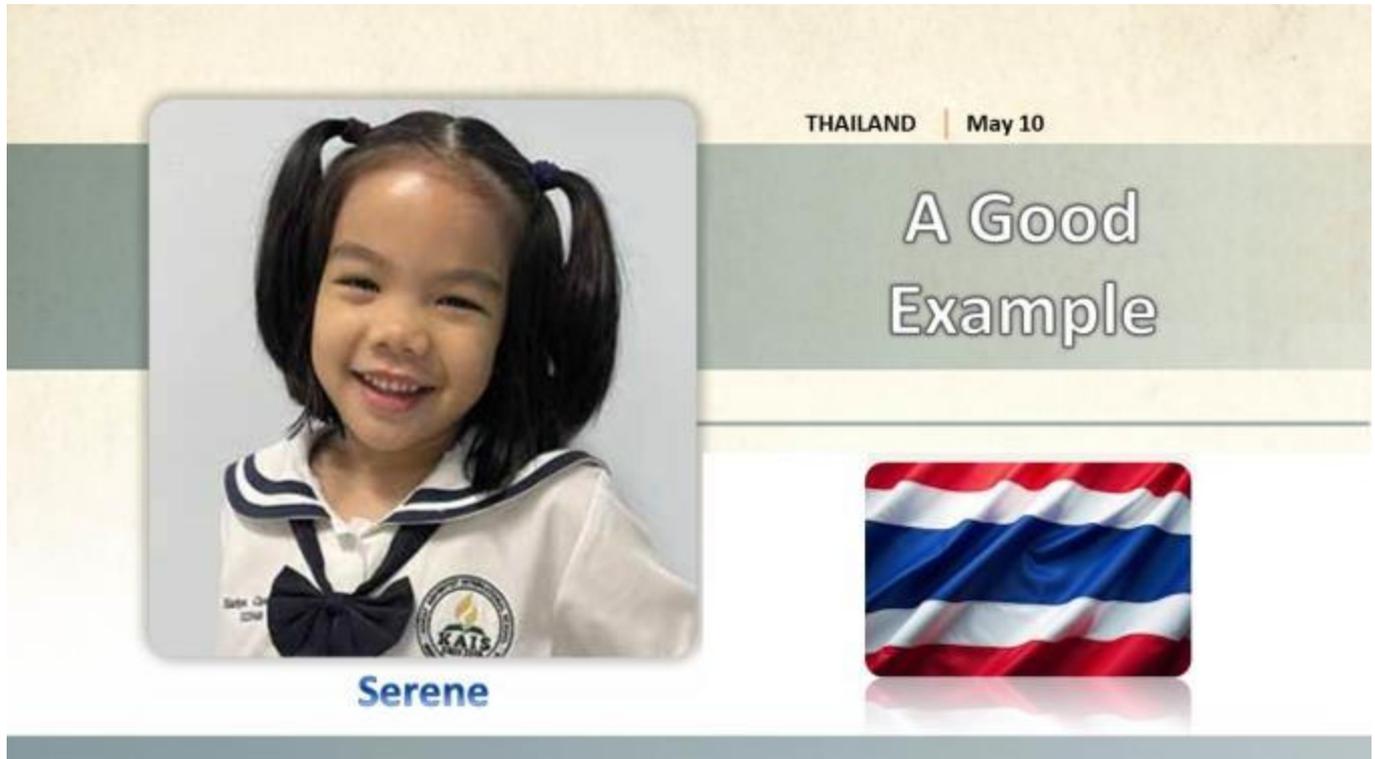
Sabbath, May 3rd, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 66

How Awesome Are Your Deeds

- Psa 66:1 **To the chief Musician, A Song or Psalm.** Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands:
Psa 66:2 Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious.
Psa 66:3 Say unto God, How terrible *art thou in thy works!* through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee.
Psa 66:4 All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing *to thy name.* Selah.
Psa 66:5 Come and see the works of God: *he is terrible in his doing toward the children of men.*
Psa 66:6 He turned the sea into dry *land:* they went through the flood on foot: there did we rejoice in him.
Psa 66:7 He rules by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah.
Psa 66:8 O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard:
Psa 66:9 Which holds our soul in life, and suffers not our feet to be moved.
Psa 66:10 For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried.
Psa 66:11 Thou brought us into the net; thou laid affliction upon our loins.
Psa 66:12 Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou brought us out into a wealthy *place.*
Psa 66:13 I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows,
Psa 66:14 Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth has spoken, when I was in trouble.
Psa 66:15 I will offer unto thee burnt sacrifices of fatlings, with the incense of rams; I will offer bullocks with goats. Selah.
Psa 66:16 Come *and* hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he has done for my soul.
Psa 66:17 I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue.
Psa 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear *me:*
Psa 66:19 *But* verily God has heard *me;* he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
Psa 66:20 Blessed *be* God, which has not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.



Serene loved her big sister, Nehe. Whatever Nehe did, Serene followed.

Nehe was everything to Serene. Serene was 2 years old, and Nehe was 6.

One night, Serene crawled into bed with Nehe as she always did. The two little girls lay in the dark bedroom in their home in Korat, Thailand. Serene looked at Nehe and saw that she had closed her eyes. That wasn't unusual. Nehe always closed her eyes when she wanted to sleep. But Nehe wasn't lying still as usual. She was folding her hands.

“What are you doing?” Serene whispered.

Nehe opened her eyes.

“I’m going to pray,” she said.

“What does it mean to pray?” Serene asked.

Serene and Nehe’s family were not Christian. Like many people in Thailand, they worshiped other gods. But Nehe had started going to a Seventh-day Adventist school, and she was learning at the school how to pray to the God of the Universe.

Nehe told her sister that prayer was talking to the God of the Universe.

Serene liked the sound of that. “I want to pray, too,” she said. “Show me how to pray.”

Nehe told Serene to close her eyes and fold her hands. She said this was how she prepared to talk to the God of the Universe.

Serene folded her hands and closed her eyes.

Then Nehe said she was going to call on the name of the God of the Universe and talk to Him silently.

“When you finish talking to Him, you say, ‘Amen,’” she said.

Then Nehe closed her eyes and folded her hands again, and she fell silent as she talked to the God of the Universe in her heart.

Serene couldn’t hear what Nehe was saying. But she knew that Nehe was talking to the God of the Universe, and she also wanted to talk to Him. So, she closed her eyes and folded her hands. Then she prayed for the first time in her life.

“Dear God,” she said, speaking silently in her heart where no human ears could hear. “Please help me to be kind to my friends and family. Amen.”

Serene smiled happily when she finished. She liked talking to the God of the Universe. She decided to talk to Him every day.

And she has.

Today, Serene is 5 years old and is studying in kindergarten at the same Adventist school where her big sister learned to pray. She talks to God every night when she goes to bed. She asks Him to help her to be kind to her friends, family, and kindergarten teacher. She also asks Him to forgive her sins. “I’m sorry for the bad things that I did today,” she says. “Please forgive me. Amen.”

Then she falls sleep.

In the morning, when she wakes up, she often thinks about God right away. She loves to think about God. As she lies in bed, she wonders if God is watching her. She wonders if God is looking at her right at that very moment. She’s sure that He is. The Bible says, “The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good” (Proverbs 15:3, NKJV).

Before jumping out of bed for her favorite breakfast of noodle soup, she whispers, “Thank You, God!”

Serene studies at Korat Adventist International School in Thailand, where many children, like her, come from families who have never heard about God.

Part of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering several years ago helped build the school. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter that will help other children in Asia also learn about the God of the Universe.

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – May 4th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 103:13; Lamentations 3:22–23; Micah 7:18-19; James 1:17: 1 John 1:9; 1 John 2:1;

1. What important fact about God's love does Jeremiah explain?

➤ **Lamentations 3:22–23** —

NOTES : “God is love. He has a care for the creatures he has formed. “Like as a father pities his children, so the Lord pities them that fear Him.” [Psalm 103:13] He has not designed that His creatures should be miserable. Have any of us duly considered how much we have to be thankful for? Do we remember that the mercies of the Lord are new every morning, and that His faithfulness fails not? Do we acknowledge our dependence upon Him, and express gratitude for all His favours? On the contrary, we too often forget that “every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights.” [James 1:17] Many experience needless unhappiness. They take their minds from Jesus, and centre them too much upon self. They magnify small difficulties, and talk discouragements. They are guilty of the great sin of needless repining over God's providences. For all that we have and are, we are indebted to God.”—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, April 21st, 1885*

2. How does God express His love to the repentant sinner?

➤ **Micah 7:18 – 19** —

NOTES : “I would I might sound the glad note to earth's remotest bounds. “If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.” [1 John 2:1] Oh, precious redemption! How broad this great truth is, that God for Christ's dear sake, forgives us the moment we ask Him in living faith, believing that He is fully able. “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” [1 John 1:9] Glorious truth! Just to His own law, and yet the justifier of all them that believe! Well may we exclaim with the prophet, “Who is a God like unto thee, that pardons iniquity, and passes by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retains not his anger forever, because he delights in mercy.” [Micah 7:18] Those who are so gloomy and desponding, gathering clouds of darkness about them, would find strength and encouragement if they would spend one hour of each day in searching the Scriptures for these precious promises, gathering and treasuring them like precious pearls. Let them dwell especially upon the mercy of God and his willingness to forgive sins. Many who have all their lives walked under a cloud, would be filled with amazement as they view the channels overflowing with mercies instead of dark clouds heavy with wrath and denunciations.”—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, September 21st, 1886*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sunday, May 4th, 2025

[Psalms 103:13]

☞ ¹³ Like as a father pities *his* children, *so* The LORD pities them that fear Him.

[Lamentations 3:22-23]

☞ ²² *It is of* The LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not.
²³ *They are* new every morning: great *is* Your faithfulness.

[Micah 7:18-19]

☞ ¹⁸ Who *is* a God like unto You, that pardons iniquity, and passes by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retains not His anger forever, because He delights *in* mercy.
¹⁹ He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities; and You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

[James 1:17]

☞ ¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from The Father of Lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

[1 John 1:9]

☞ ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[1 John 2:1]

☞ ¹ My little children, these things write I to you, that you sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with The Father, Jesus Christ The Righteous:

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, May 4th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 131

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 4th

Obedience the Test of True Religion

Every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes.

Luke 6:44

“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith.” (2 Corinthians 13:5) Some conscientious souls, on reading this, immediately begin to criticize their every feeling and emotion. But this is not correct self-examination. It is not the petty feelings and emotions that are to be examined. The life, the character, is to be measured by the only standard of character, God’s holy law. The fruit testifies to the character of the tree. Our works, not our feelings, bear witness of us.

The feelings, whether encouraging or discouraging, should not be made the test of the spiritual condition. By God’s Word we are to determine our true standing before Him. Many are bewildered on this point. When they are happy and joyous, they think that they are accepted of God. When a change comes, and they feel depressed, they think that God has forsaken them.... God does not desire us to go through life with a distrust of Him.... While we were yet sinners, God gave His Son to die for us. Can we doubt His goodness? ...

But a faithful performance of duty goes hand in hand with a right estimate of the character of God. There is earnest work to do for the Master. Christ came to preach the gospel to the poor, and He sent His disciples forth to do the same work He came to do. So He sends forth His workers today. Sheaves are to be gathered for Him from the highways and hedges.

The tremendous issues of eternity demand of us something besides an imaginary religion, a religion of words and forms, where the truth is kept in the outer court, to be admired as we admire a beautiful flower; they demand something more than a religion of feeling, which distrusts God when trials and difficulties come. Holiness does not consist in profession, but in lifting the cross, doing the will of God.... *“He that says, I know him, and keeps not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keeps his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected.”* (1 John 2:4, 5)

Daily Scripture

Sunday, May 4th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 67

Make Your Face Shine upon Us

- Psa 67:1 **To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm or Song.** God be merciful unto us, and bless us; *and* cause his face to shine upon us; Selah.
- Psa 67:2 That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.
- Psa 67:3 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.
- Psa 67:4 O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah.
- Psa 67:5 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.
- Psa 67:6 *Then* shall the earth yield her increase; *and* God, *even* our own God, shall bless us.
- Psa 67:7 God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

Monday – May 5th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 7:7–11; John 13:1-5; Romans 8:32; 2 Peter 1:3–4;

1. What does the Bible reveal of the extent of God's love?

- **Romans 8:32** —
- **2 Peter 1:3–4** —
- **Matthew 7:7–11** —

NOTES : “When we seem to doubt God's love and distrust His promises, we dishonour Him and grieve His Holy Spirit. How would a mother feel if her children were constantly complaining of her, just as though she did not mean them well, when her whole life's effort had been to forward their interests and to give them comfort? Suppose they should doubt her love; it would break her heart. How would any parent feel to be thus treated by his children? And how can our heavenly Father regard us when we distrust His love, which has led Him to give His only-begotten Son that we might have life?”—*Steps to Christ, page 118*

2. How did Jesus express His love for His disciples?

- **John 13:1–5** —

NOTES : “How could He show that a mere profession of discipleship did not make them disciples, or insure them a place in His kingdom? How could He show that it is loving service, true humility, which constitutes real greatness? How was He to kindle love in their hearts, and enable them to comprehend what He longed to tell them? The disciples made no move toward serving one another. Jesus waited for a time to see what they would do. Then He, the divine Teacher, rose from the table. Laying aside the outer garment that would have impeded His movements, He took a towel, and girded Himself. With surprised interest the disciples looked on, and in silence waited to see what was to follow. “After that He pours water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith He was girded.” [John 13:5] This action opened the eyes of the disciples. Bitter shame and humiliation filled their hearts. They understood the unspoken rebuke, and saw themselves in altogether a new light. So Christ expressed His love for His disciples. Their selfish spirit filled Him with sorrow, but He entered into no controversy with them regarding their difficulty. Instead, He gave them an example they would never forget. His love for them was not easily disturbed or quenched. He knew that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He came from God, and went to God. He had a full consciousness of His divinity; but He had laid aside His royal crown and kingly robes, and had taken the form of a servant. One of the last acts of His life on earth was to gird Himself as a servant, and perform a servant's part.”—*The Desire of Ages, page 644*

3. Heaven's Hotline

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Lesson Scripture

Monday, May 5th, 2025

[Matthew 7:7-11]

- ↪ ⁷ Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:
- ⁸ For every one that asks receives; and he that seeks finds; and to him that knocks it shall be opened.
- ⁹ Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?
- ¹⁰ Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?
- ¹¹ If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask Him?

[John 13:1-5]

- ↪ ¹ Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour was come that He should depart out of this world unto The Father, having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end.
- ² And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's *son*, to betray Him;
- ³ Jesus knowing that The Father had given all things into His hands, and that He was come from God, and went to God;
- ⁴ He rises from supper, and laid aside His garments; and took a towel, and girded Himself.
- ⁵ After that He poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel wherewith He was girded.

[Romans 8:32]

- ↪ ³² He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

[2 Peter 1:3-4]

- ↪ ³ According as His divine power has given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that has called us to glory and virtue:
- ⁴ Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these you might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, May 5th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 132

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 5th

God’s Word Our Guide and Counsellor

For thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness.

Psalm 18:28

God’s Word is our light. It is Christ’s message to His heritage, who have been bought with the price of His blood. It was written for our guidance, and if we make this Word our counsellor, we shall never walk in strange paths. Our words, whether we are in the home or associating with those outside the home, will be kind, affectionate, and pure. If we study the Word and make it a part of our lives, we shall have a wholesome experience, which will always speak forth the truth. We shall search our hearts diligently, comparing our daily speech and tenor of life with the Word, that we may make no mistake.

There are many in this age of the world who act as if they were at liberty to question the words of the Infinite, to review His decisions and statutes, endorsing, revising, reshaping, and annulling at their pleasure. We are never safe while we are guided by human opinions, but we are safe when we are guided by a “Thus says the Lord.” We cannot trust the salvation of our souls to any lower standard than the decisions of an infallible Judge.

Those who make God their guide and His Word their counsellor, behold the lamp of life. God’s living oracles guide their feet in straight paths. Those who are thus led do not dare to judge the Word of God, but ever hold that His Word judges them. They get their faith and religion from the Word of the living God. It is the guide and counsellor that directs their path. The Word is indeed a light to their feet and a lamp to their path. They walk under the direction of the Father of light, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. He whose tender mercies are over all His works makes the path of the just as a shining light, which shines more and more unto the perfect day.

The Bible is the voice of God to His people. As we study the living oracles, we are to remember that God is speaking to His people out of His Word.... If we realized the importance of searching the Scriptures, how much more diligently we would study them!

Daily Scripture

Monday, May 5th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 68

God Shall Scatter His Enemies

- Psa 68:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm or Song of David.** Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him.
- Psa 68:2 As smoke is driven away, *so* drive *them* away: as wax melts before the fire, *so* let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- Psa 68:3 But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yea, let them exceedingly rejoice.
- Psa 68:4 Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that rides upon the heavens by his name JAH, and rejoice before him.
- Psa 68:5 A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, *is* God in his holy habitation.
- Psa 68:6 God sets the solitary in families: he brings out those which are bound with chains: but the rebellious dwell in a dry *land*.
- Psa 68:7 O God, when thou went forth before thy people, when thou didst march through the wilderness; Selah:
- Psa 68:8 The earth shook, the heavens also dropped at the presence of God: *even* Sinai itself *was moved* at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- Psa 68:9 Thou, O God, didst send a plentiful rain, whereby thou didst confirm thine inheritance, when it was weary.
- Psa 68:10 Thy congregation has dwelt therein: thou, O God, hast prepared of thy goodness for the poor.
- Psa 68:11 The Lord gave the word: great *was* the company of those that published *it*.
- Psa 68:12 Kings of armies did flee apace: and she that tarried at home divided the spoil.
- Psa 68:13 Though ye have lien among the pots, *yet shall ye be as* the wings of a dove covered with silver, and her feathers with yellow gold.
- Psa 68:14 When the Almighty scattered kings in it, it was *white* as snow in Salmon.
- Psa 68:15 The hill of God *is as* the hill of Bashan; an high hill *as* the hill of Bashan.
- Psa 68:16 Why leap ye, ye high hills? *this is* the hill *which* God desires to dwell in; yea, the LORD will dwell *in it* for ever.
- Psa 68:17 The chariots of God *are* twenty thousand, *even* thousands of angels: the Lord *is* among them, *as in* Sinai, in the holy *place*.
- Psa 68:18 Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, *for* the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell *among them*.
- Psa 68:19 Blessed *be* the Lord, *who* daily loads us *with benefits*, *even* the God of our salvation. Selah.
- Psa 68:20 *He that is* our God *is* the God of salvation; and unto GOD the Lord *belong* the issues from death.
- Psa 68:21 But God shall wound the head of his enemies, *and* the hairy scalp of such an one as goes on still in his trespasses.
- Psa 68:22 The Lord said, I will bring again from Bashan, I will bring *my people* again from the depths of the sea:
- Psa 68:23 That thy foot may be dipped in the blood of *thine* enemies, *and* the tongue of thy dogs in the same.
- Psa 68:24 They have seen thy goings, O God; *even* the goings of my God, my King, in the sanctuary.
- Psa 68:25 The singers went before, the players on instruments *followed* after; among *them were* the damsels playing with timbrels.
- Psa 68:26 Bless ye God in the congregations, *even* the Lord, from the fountain of Israel.

- Psa 68:27 There *is* little Benjamin *with* their ruler, the princes of Judah *and* their council, the princes of Zebulun, *and* the princes of Naphtali.
- Psa 68:28 Thy God has commanded thy strength: strengthen, O God, that which thou hast wrought for us.
- Psa 68:29 Because of thy temple at Jerusalem shall kings bring presents unto thee.
- Psa 68:30 Rebuke the company of spearmen, the multitude of the bulls, with the calves of the people, *till every one* submit himself with pieces of silver: scatter thou the people *that* delight in war.
- Psa 68:31 Princes shall come out of Egypt; Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God.
- Psa 68:32 Sing unto God, ye kingdoms of the earth; O sing praises unto the Lord; Selah:
- Psa 68:33 To him that rides upon the heavens of heavens, *which were* of old; lo, he doth send out his voice, *and that* a mighty voice.
- Psa 68:34 Ascribe ye strength unto God: his excellency *is* over Israel, and his strength *is* in the clouds.
- Psa 68:35 O God, *thou art* terrible out of thy holy places: the God of Israel *is* he that giveth strength and power unto *his* people. Blessed *be* God.

Tuesday – May 6th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Philippians 2:5–8; Hebrews 12:5–11; Revelation 3:19;

1. How was this principle of loving service manifested throughout Christ's life on earth?

➤ **Philippians 2:5–8** —

NOTES : “Angels are ever engaged in working for the happiness of others. This is their joy. That which selfish hearts would consider humiliating service, ministering to those who are wretched and in every way inferior in character and rank, is the work of the pure, sinless angels in the royal courts of heaven. The spirit of Christ's self-sacrificing love is the spirit which pervades heaven and is the very essence of its bliss. Those who feel no special pleasure in seeking to be a blessing to others, in working, even at a sacrifice, to do them good, cannot have the spirit of Christ or of heaven; for they have no union with the work of heavenly angels and cannot participate in the bliss that imparts elevated joy to them.”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 3, page 381*

2. How is God's love sometimes manifested? What is His purpose?

➤ **Hebrews 12:5–11** —

NOTES : “The Lord permits trials to come to us in order that we may be cleansed from earthliness, from selfishness, from sharp, unChristlike traits of character; that we may be led to look to Him as the source of all strength. He suffers the deep waves of affliction to pass over our souls in order that we may have deep heart-longings to be cleansed from all defilement, and come forth from the trial purer and holier, with a deeper knowledge of Him. “As many as I love,” God says, “I rebuke and chasten; be zealous therefore, and repent,” [Revelation 3:19] In order that we may die to self, we are called upon to endure trial, and when the chastening hand of the Lord is laid upon us, we are not to fret and complain, not to rebel, not to worry ourselves out of the hand of Christ. We are to humble ourselves before God, pleading with Him to give us rest and peace. We enter the furnace of affliction with our hearts darkened by selfishness; but if patient under the crucial test, we shall come forth reflecting the divine image, as gold tried in the fire.”—*Signs of the Times, December 3rd, 1896*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, May 6th, 2025

[Philippians 2:5-8]

- ☞ ⁵ Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
- ⁶ Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
- ⁷ But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:
- ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

[Hebrews 12:5-11]

- ☞ ⁵ And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks unto you as unto children, My son, despise not you the chastening of The Lord, nor faint when you art rebuked of Him:
- ⁶ For whom The Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.
- ⁷ If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chastens not?
- ⁸ But if you be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are you bastards, and not sons.
- ⁹ Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected *us*, and we gave *them* reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto The Father of spirits, and live?
- ¹⁰ For they verily for a few days chastened *us* after their own pleasure; but He for *our* profit, that *we* might be partakers of His holiness.
- ¹¹ Now no chastening for the present seems to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

[Revelation 3:19]

- ☞ ¹⁹ As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, May 6th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 133

May 6th

The Great Standard of Right and Wrong

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

2 Timothy 3:16, 17

In the Word of God is contained everything essential to the perfecting of the man of God. It is like a treasure house, full of valuable and precious stores, but we do not appreciate its riches nor realize the necessity of equipping ourselves with the treasures of truth. We do not realize the great necessity of searching the Scriptures for ourselves. Many neglect the study of the Word of God in order to pursue some worldly interest or to indulge in some trifling pleasure.... Oh, we might better put off anything of an earthly character than the investigation of the Word of God, which is able to make us wise unto life eternal. “*Given by inspiration of God,*” ... the Book of books has the highest claims to our reverent attention....

In searching for Heaven-revealed truths, the Spirit of God is brought into close connection with the sincere searcher of the Scriptures. An understanding of the revealed will of God enlarges the mind, expands, elevates, and endows it with new vigour by bringing its faculties into contact with stupendous truth....

The understanding takes the level of the things with which it becomes familiar. If all would make the Bible their study, we would see a people who were better developed, who were capable of thinking more deeply, who would manifest greater intelligence than those who have earnestly studied apart from the Bible the sciences and histories of the world. The Bible gives the true seeker for truth an advanced mental discipline, and he comes from contemplation of divine things with his faculties enriched; self is humbled, while God and His revealed truth are exalted.

The Bible is the great standard of right and wrong, clearly defining sin and holiness. Its living principles, running through our lives like threads of gold, are our only safeguard in trial and temptation.

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, May 6th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 69

Save Me, O God

- Psa 69:1 **To the chief Musician upon Shoshannim, A Psalm of David.** Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto *my* soul.
- Psa 69:2 I sink in deep mire, where *there is* no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me.
- Psa 69:3 I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God.
- Psa 69:4 They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, *being* mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored *that* which I took not away.
- Psa 69:5 O God, thou know my foolishness; and my sins are not hid from thee.
- Psa 69:6 Let not them that wait on thee, O Lord GOD of hosts, be ashamed for my sake: let not those that seek thee be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel.
- Psa 69:7 Because for thy sake I have borne reproach; shame has covered my face.
- Psa 69:8 I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children.
- Psa 69:9 For the zeal of thine house has eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me.
- Psa 69:10 When I wept, *and chastened* my soul with fasting, that was to my reproach.
- Psa 69:11 I made sackcloth also my garment; and I became a proverb to them.
- Psa 69:12 They that sit in the gate speak against me; and I *was* the song of the drunkards.
- Psa 69:13 But as for me, my prayer *is* unto thee, O LORD, *in* an acceptable time: O God, in the multitude of thy mercy hear me, in the truth of thy salvation.
- Psa 69:14 Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink: let me be delivered from them that hate me, and out of the deep waters.
- Psa 69:15 Let not the waterflood overflow me, neither let the deep swallow me up, and let not the pit shut her mouth upon me.
- Psa 69:16 Hear me, O LORD; for thy lovingkindness *is* good: turn unto me according to the multitude of thy tender mercies.
- Psa 69:17 And hide not thy face from thy servant; for I am in trouble: hear me speedily.
- Psa 69:18 Draw nigh unto my soul, *and* redeem it: deliver me because of mine enemies.
- Psa 69:19 Thou hast known my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonour: mine adversaries *are* all before thee.
- Psa 69:20 Reproach has broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked *for some* to take pity, but *there was* none; and for comforters, but I found none.
- Psa 69:21 They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.
- Psa 69:22 Let their table become a snare before them: and *that which should have been* for their welfare, *let it become* a trap.
- Psa 69:23 Let their eyes be darkened, that they see not; and make their loins continually to shake.
- Psa 69:24 Pour out thine indignation upon them, and let thy wrathful anger take hold of them.
- Psa 69:25 Let their habitation be desolate; *and* let none dwell in their tents.
- Psa 69:26 For they persecute *him* whom thou hast smitten; and they talk to the grief of those whom thou hast wounded.
- Psa 69:27 Add iniquity unto their iniquity: and let them not come into thy righteousness.

- Psa 69:28 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.
- Psa 69:29 But I *am* poor and sorrowful: let thy salvation, O God, set me up on high.
- Psa 69:30 I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.
- Psa 69:31 *This* also shall please the LORD better than an ox *or* bullock that has horns and hoofs.
- Psa 69:32 The humble shall see *this, and* be glad: and your heart shall live that seek God.
- Psa 69:33 For the LORD hears the poor, and despises not his prisoners.
- Psa 69:34 Let the heaven and earth praise him, the seas, and everything that moves therein.
- Psa 69:35 For God will save Zion, and will build the cities of Judah: that they may dwell there, and have it in possession.
- Psa 69:36 The seed also of his servants shall inherit it: and they that love his name shall dwell therein.

Wednesday, May 7th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Leviticus 19:18; Deuteronomy 6:5; Matthew 22:35-40; John 14:15 & 21; Romans 8:35–39; 1 John 2:3-4; 1 John 5:3;

1. Is there anything others can do to us that will separate us from God's love?

➤ **Romans 8:35–39** —

NOTES : “In the courts above, Christ is pleading for His church, pleading for those for whom He has paid the redemption price of His blood. Centuries, ages, can never lessen the efficacy of His atoning sacrifice. Neither life nor death, height nor depth, can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus; not because we hold Him so firmly, but because He holds us so fast. If our salvation depended on our own efforts, we could not be saved; but it depends on the One who is behind all the promises. Our grasp on Him may seem feeble, but His love is that of an elder brother; so long as we maintain our union with Him, no one can pluck us out of His hand.”—*Acts of the Apostles, page 552*

2. What did John say is the expression of our love to God?

➤ **1 John 5:3** —

➤ **John 14:15** —

➤ **John 14:21** —

➤ **Matthew 22:35-40** —

➤ **Deuteronomy 6:5** —

➤ **Leviticus 19:18** —

NOTES : “The love of Jesus in the heart will lead to obedience to all His commandments. But the love that goes no farther than the lips, is a delusion; it will not save any soul. Many reject the truths of the Bible, while they profess great love for Jesus; but the apostle John declares, “He that said, I know him, and keeps not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.” [1 John 2:4] While Jesus has done all in the way of merit, we ourselves have something to do in the way of complying with the conditions. “If ye love me,” said our Saviour, “keep my commandments.” [John 14:15]”—*Historical Sketches, page 188*

“Obedience is the test of discipleship. It is the keeping of the commandments that proves the sincerity of our professions of love. When the doctrine we accept kills sin in the heart, purifies the soul from defilement, bears fruit unto holiness, we may know that it is the truth of God. When benevolence, kindness, tender-heartedness, sympathy, are manifest in our lives; when the joy of right doing is in our hearts; when we exalt Christ, and not self, we may know that our faith is of the right order. “Hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.” [1 John 2:3]”—*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, page 146*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, May 7th, 2025

[Leviticus 19:18]

- ☞ ¹⁸ You shall not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am The LORD.

[Deuteronomy 6:5]

- ☞ ⁵ And you shall love The LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.

[Matthew 22:34-40]

- ☞ ³⁴ But when the Pharisees had heard that He had put the Sadducees to silence, they were gathered together.
³⁵ Then one of them, *which was* a lawyer, asked *Him a question*, tempting Him, and saying,
³⁶ Master, which *is* the great commandment in the law?
³⁷ Jesus said unto him, **You shall love The Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.**
³⁸ **This is the first and great commandment.**
³⁹ **And the second *is* like unto it, You shall love your neighbour as yourself.**
⁴⁰ **On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.**

[John 14:15]

- ☞ ¹⁵ **If you love Me, keep My commandments.**

[John 14:21]

- ☞ ²¹ **He that has My commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves Me: and he that loves Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him.**

[Romans 8:35-39]

- ☞ ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
³⁶ As it is written, For your sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.
³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us.
³⁸ For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
³⁹ Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

[1 John 2:3-4]

- ☞ ³ And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.
⁴ He that said, I know Him, and keeps not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

[1 John 5:3]

- ☞ ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, May 7th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 134

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 7th

An Audience With the Most High

For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually works also in you that believe.

1 Thessalonians 2:13

The Bible is God’s voice speaking to us just as surely as though we could hear Him with our ears. The word of the living God is not merely written, but spoken. Do we receive the Bible as the oracle of God? If we realized the importance of this Word, with what awe would we open it, and with what earnestness would we search its precepts. The reading and contemplating of the Scriptures would be regarded as an audience with the Most High.

God’s Word is a message to us to be obeyed, a volume to be perused diligently, and with a spirit willing to take in the truths written for the admonition of those upon whom the ends of the world are come. It must not be neglected for any other book.... When we open the Bible, let us compare our lives with its requirements, measuring our character by the great moral standard of righteousness.

The life of Christ, that gives life to the world, is in His Word. It was by His word that Jesus healed disease and cast out demons; by His word He stilled the sea, and raised the dead; and the people bore witness that His word was with power. He spoke the Word of God, as He had spoken to all the prophets and teachers of the Old Testament. The whole Bible is a manifestation of Christ. It is our source of power.

As our physical life is sustained by food, so our spiritual life is sustained by the Word of God.... As we must eat for ourselves in order to receive nourishment, so we must receive the Word for ourselves. We are not to obtain it merely through the medium of another mind.

Yes, the Word of God is the bread of life.... It gives immortal vigour to the soul, perfecting the experience, and bringing joys that will abide forever.

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, May 7th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 70

O Lord, Do Not Delay

- Psa 70:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, to bring to remembrance.** *Make haste*, O God, to deliver me; make haste to help me, O LORD.
- Psa 70:2 Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my soul: let them be turned backward, and put to confusion, that desire my hurt.
- Psa 70:3 Let them be turned back for a reward of their shame that say, Aha, aha.
- Psa 70:4 Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: and let such as love thy salvation say continually, Let God be magnified.
- Psa 70:5 But I *am* poor and needy: make haste unto me, O God: thou *art* my help and my deliverer; O LORD, make no tarrying.

Thursday – May 8th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Exodus 34:6-7; Deuteronomy 5:33; Deuteronomy 6:3; Deuteronomy 6:24–25; Isaiah 28:15; Isaiah 28:21; Ezekiel 33:11; Nahum 1:3;

1. How does God express His love for us through His Law?

- Deuteronomy 5:33 —
- Deuteronomy 6:3 —
- Deuteronomy 24–25 —

NOTES : “Upon obedience depends the life and happiness, the health and joy, of men, women, and children. Obedience is for our well-being in this life and in the life to come. “The Lord commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is at this day. And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the Lord our God, as He hath commanded us.” [Deuteronomy 6:24] If the law of God were taught in the home, if obedience were enjoined upon children from their earliest years, how different the world would be today! Temperance, industry, and economy would be seen. Evil would be avoided. Virtue would be cherished. The Scriptures given above are for our admonition and instruction. But they are not studied as they should be. The failure to follow God's plan is causing him to withdraw His blessing from parents and children.”—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, July 15th, 1902*

2. What will the Lord do that seems uncharacteristic of His love?

- Isaiah 28:15 —

NOTES : “The forbearance that God has exercised toward the wicked, emboldens men in transgression; but their punishment will be none the less certain and terrible for being long delayed. “The Lord shall rise up as in Mount Perazim, He shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that He may do His work, His strange work; and bring to pass His act, His strange act.” [Isaiah 28:21] To our merciful God the act of punishment is a strange act. “As I live, said the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live.” [Ezekiel 33:11] The Lord is “merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, . . . forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.” Yet He will “by no means clear the guilty.” [Exodus 34:6-7] While He does not delight in vengeance, He will execute judgement upon the transgressors of His law. He is forced to do this, to preserve the inhabitants of the earth from utter depravity and ruin. In order to save some He must cut off those who have become hardened in sin. “The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked.” [Nahum 1:3] By terrible things in righteousness, He will vindicate the authority of His downtrodden law. And the very fact of His reluctance to execute justice testifies to the enormity of the sins that call forth His judgments and to the severity of the retribution awaiting the transgressor.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets, page 628*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

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Lesson Scripture

Thursday, May 8th, 2025

[Exodus 34:6-7]

- ☞ ⁶ And The LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, **The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,**
⁷ **Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.**

☞ [Deuteronomy 5:33]

- ³³ You shall walk in all the ways which The LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live, and *that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess.*

[Deuteronomy 6:3]

- ☞ ³ Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do *it*; that it may be well with you, and that you may increase mightily, as The LORD God of your fathers has promised you, in the land that flows with milk and honey.

[Deuteronomy 6:24-25]

- ☞ ²⁴ And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear The LORD our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as *it is* at this day.
²⁵ And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before The LORD our God, as He has commanded us.

[Isaiah 28:15]

- ☞ ¹⁵ Because you have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves:

[Isaiah 28:21]

- ☞ ²¹ For The LORD shall rise up as *in* mount Perazim, He shall be wroth as *in* the valley of Gibeon, that He may do His work, His strange work; and bring to pass His act, His strange act.

[Ezekiel 33:11]

- ☞ ¹¹ Say unto them, **As I live, said The Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn you, turn you from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?**

[Nahum 1:3]

- ☞ ³ The LORD *is* slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit *the wicked*: The LORD has His way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds *are* the dust of His feet.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, May 8th, 2025

*In Heavenly Places,
Chapter 5, p. 135*

May 8th

Joy and Consolation

How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Psalm 119:103

God has given us His Word as a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Its teachings have a vital bearing on our prosperity in all the relations of life. Even in our temporal affairs it will be a wiser guide than any other counsellor....

The appreciation of the Bible grows with its study. Whichever way the student may turn he will find displayed the infinite wisdom and love of God. To him who is truly converted the Word of God is the joy and consolation of the life. The Spirit of God speaks to him, and his heart becomes like a watered garden.

There is nothing more calculated to strengthen the intellect than a study of the Bible. No other book is so potent to elevate the thoughts, to give vigour to the faculties, as the broad, ennobling truths of the Bible. If God's Word were studied as it should be, men would have a breadth of mind, a nobility of character, that is rarely seen in these times.

No knowledge is so firm, so consistent, so far reaching, as that obtained from a study of the Word of God. If there were not another book in the wide world, the Word of God, lived out through the grace of Christ, would make man perfect in this world, with a character fitted for the future, immortal life. Those who study the Word, taking it in faith as the truth and receiving it into the character, will be complete in Him who is all in all. Thank God for the possibilities set before humanity.

“Whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.” (Romans 15:4). “Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.” (1 Timothy 4:15). “For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower thereof falls away: but the word of the Lord endures for ever.” (1 Peter 1:24, 25)

The time devoted to a study of God's Word and to prayer will bring a hundredfold return.

Daily Scripture

Thursday, May 8th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 71

Forsake Me Not When My Strength Is Spent

- Psa 71:1 In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion.
- Psa 71:2 Deliver me in thy righteousness, and cause me to escape: incline thine ear unto me, and save me.
- Psa 71:3 Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou *art* my rock and my fortress.
- Psa 71:4 Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.
- Psa 71:5 For thou *art* my hope, O Lord GOD: *thou art* my trust from my youth.
- Psa 71:6 By thee have I been holden up from the womb: thou art he that took me out of my mother's bowels: my praise *shall be* continually of thee.
- Psa 71:7 I am as a wonder unto many; but thou *art* my strong refuge.
- Psa 71:8 Let my mouth be filled *with* thy praise *and with* thy honour all the day.
- Psa 71:9 Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength fails.
- Psa 71:10 For mine enemies speak against me; and they that lay wait for my soul take counsel together,
- Psa 71:11 Saying, God has forsaken him: persecute and take him; for *there is* none to deliver *him*.
- Psa 71:12 O God, be not far from me: O my God, make haste for my help.
- Psa 71:13 Let them be confounded *and* consumed that are adversaries to my soul; let them be covered *with* reproach and dishonour that seek my hurt.
- Psa 71:14 But I will hope continually, and will yet praise thee more and more.
- Psa 71:15 My mouth shall shew forth thy righteousness *and* thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers *thereof*.
- Psa 71:16 I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will make mention of thy righteousness, *even* of thine only.
- Psa 71:17 O God, thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works.
- Psa 71:18 Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto *this* generation, *and* thy power to everyone *that* is to come.
- Psa 71:19 Thy righteousness also, O God, *is* very high, who hast done great things: O God, who *is* like unto thee!
- Psa 71:20 *Thou*, which hast shewed me great and sore troubles, shalt quicken me again, and shalt bring me up again from the depths of the earth.
- Psa 71:21 Thou shalt increase my greatness, and comfort me on every side.
- Psa 71:22 I will also praise thee with the psaltery, *even* thy truth, O my God: unto thee will I sing with the harp, O thou Holy One of Israel.
- Psa 71:23 My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto thee; and my soul, which thou hast redeemed.
- Psa 71:24 My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long: for they are confounded, for they are brought unto shame, that seek my hurt.

Preparation Day – May 9th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Genesis 18:17–32; Nahum 1:9; John 3:16; 2 Peter 3:9; Revelation 21:1–5;

1. How did the Lord show His love and mercy in the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah?

➤ **Genesis 18:17–32** —

2. Why has God not destroyed the wicked already?

➤ **2 Peter 3:9** —

NOTES : “The simple story of the cross of Christ, his suffering and dying for the world his resurrection and ascension, his mediation in the sinner’s behalf before the Father, subdues and breaks the hard and sinful heart, and brings the sinner to repentance. The Holy Spirit sets the matter before him in a new light, and the sinner realises that sin must be a tremendous evil to cost such a sacrifice to atone for it; for he hears that “God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” [John 3:16] How grievous must sin be that no less a remedy than the death of the Son of God could save man from the consequences of his guilt. Why was this done in behalf of man? It was because God loved him, and was not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance, believe in Jesus as a personal Saviour, and have life eternal.”—*Youth’s Instructor, January 19th, 1893*

3. What promise has God made concerning His destruction of sin and sinners?

➤ **Nahum 1:9** —

➤ **Revelation 21:1–5** —

NOTES : “The whole universe will have become witnesses to the nature and results of sin. And its utter extermination, which in the beginning would have brought fear to angels and dishonour to God, will now vindicate His love and establish His honour before the universe of beings who delight to do His will, and in whose heart is His law. Never will evil again be manifest. Says the word of God: “Affliction shall not rise up the second time.” [Nahum 1:9] The law of God, which Satan has reproached as the yoke of bondage, will be honoured as the law of liberty. A tested and proved creation will never again be turned from allegiance to Him whose character has been fully manifested before them as fathomless love and infinite wisdom.”—*The Great Controversy, page 504*

4. Heaven’s Hotline

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Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, May 9th, 2025

[Genesis 18:17-33]

- ☞ ¹⁷ And The LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;
- ¹⁸ Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?
- ¹⁹ For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of The LORD, to do justice and judgment; that The LORD may bring upon Abraham that which He has spoken of him.
- ²⁰ And The LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;
- ²¹ I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto Me; and if not, I will know.
- ²² And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before The LORD.
- ²³ And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt You also destroy the righteous with the wicked?
- ²⁴ Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt You also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that *are* therein?
- ²⁵ That be far from You to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from You: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?
- ²⁶ And The LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.
- ²⁷ And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto The Lord, which *am* but dust and ashes:
- ²⁸ Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: will You destroy all the city for *lack of* five? And He said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy *it*.
- ²⁹ And he spake unto Him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And He said, I will not do *it* for forty's sake.
- ³⁰ And he said *unto Him*, Oh let not The Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And He said, I will not do *it*, if I find thirty there.
- ³¹ And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto The Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And He said, I will not destroy *it* for twenty's sake.
- ³² And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And He said, I will not destroy *it* for ten's sake.
- ³³ And The LORD went His way, as soon as He had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

[Nahum 1:9]

- ☞ ⁹ What do you imagine against The LORD? He will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time.

[John 3:16]

- ☞ ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

[2 Peter 3:9]

- ☞ ⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

[Revelation 21:1-5]

- ☞ ¹ And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.
- ² And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
- ³ And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.
- ⁴ And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.
- ⁵ And He that sat upon the throne said, **Behold, I make all things new.** And He said unto me, **Write: for these words are true and faithful.**

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, May 9th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 136

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 9th

A Safeguard Against the Enemy

The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

Psalm 37:31

Many are surprised into the commission of sin because of a failure to study the Scriptures. They were off their guard, and Satan found them an easy prey.

Wonderful possibilities are open to those who lay hold of the divine assurances of God’s word. There are glorious truths to come before the people of God. Privileges and duties which they do not even suspect to be in the Bible will be laid open before them. As they follow on in the path of humble obedience, doing His will, they will know more and more of the oracles of God....

The precious faith inspired of God imparts strength and nobility of character. As His goodness, His mercy, and His love are dwelt upon, clearer and still clearer will be the perception of truth; higher, holier, the desire for purity of heart and clearness of thought. The soul dwelling in the pure atmosphere of holy thought is transformed by intercourse with God through the study of His Word. Truth is so large, so far reaching, so deep, so broad, that self is lost sight of. The heart is softened and subdued into humility, kindness, and love. And the natural powers are enlarged because of holy obedience. From the study of the words of life students may come forth with minds expanded, elevated, ennobled.

Youthful minds fail to reach their noblest development when they neglect the highest source of wisdom—the Word of God. That we are in God’s world, in the presence of the Creator, that we are made in His likeness; that He watches over us and loves us and cares for us—these are wonderful themes for thought and lead the mind into broad, exalted fields of meditation. He who opens mind and heart to the contemplation of such themes as these will never be satisfied with trivial, sensational subjects....

The Bible has the highest claim to our reverent attention. We should not be satisfied with a superficial knowledge, but should seek to learn the full meaning of the words of truth, to drink deep of the spirit of the Holy Oracles.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, May 9th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 72

Give the King Your Justice

- Psa 72:1 *A Psalm for Solomon.* Give the king thy judgments, O God, and thy righteousness unto the king's son.
- Psa 72:2 He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment.
- Psa 72:3 The mountains shall bring peace to the people, and the little hills, by righteousness.
- Psa 72:4 He shall judge the poor of the people, he shall save the children of the needy, and shall break in pieces the oppressor.
- Psa 72:5 They shall fear thee as long as the sun and moon endure, throughout all generations.
- Psa 72:6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass: as showers *that* water the earth.
- Psa 72:7 In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endures.
- Psa 72:8 He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.
- Psa 72:9 They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust.
- Psa 72:10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.
- Psa 72:11 Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.
- Psa 72:12 For he shall deliver the needy when he cries; the poor also, and *him* that has no helper.
- Psa 72:13 He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy.
- Psa 72:14 He shall redeem their soul from deceit and violence: and precious shall their blood be in his sight.
- Psa 72:15 And he shall live, and to him shall be given of the gold of Sheba: prayer also shall be made for him continually; *and* daily shall he be praised.
- Psa 72:16 There shall be an handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountains; the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon: and *they* of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.
- Psa 72:17 His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and *men* shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed.
- Psa 72:18 Blessed *be* the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.
- Psa 72:19 And blessed *be* his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled *with* his glory; Amen, and Amen.
- Psa 72:20 The prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, May 9th, 2025



Last week: Twelve-year-old Pada wondered why his big brother, Morja, left the family religion and became a Seventh-day Adventist in Thailand. Morja invited him to find out for himself by moving in with him, his wife, and their three sons.

Weeks and months passed as Pada accompanied Morja and his family on the long eight-mile (13-kilometer) walk to church every Sabbath.

Pada continued to wonder why Morja had become an Adventist. He didn't have any immediate answers. But he noticed that Morja was very faithful about going to church on Sabbath. It didn't matter if it was raining or cold, the family always got up before dawn and took the long walk to church. He also noticed that Morja was very faithful with tithe and offerings. Every Sabbath, he put some money in the collection plate. Morja explained to his younger brother that the money actually belonged to God.

“I'm returning to God what already is His as a thank-you gift,” he said.

Pada had lived for the first 12 years of his life with his mother in a very poor home. He didn't understand how Morja could afford to give away money. But he noticed that Morja never seemed to lack money. There always was enough food and other necessities.

A year passed. Two years passed. Three years passed. Morja's three sons grew older and went to an Adventist school in another town. Morja was not rich, but somehow he found the money for his sons' tuition.

Pada had never gone to school. Now he was 15, and he wished that he also could go to school. As he thought about his predicament, he wondered, “Could it be that this is why Morja became an Adventist? He isn't rich, but he never needs anything. He has food and clothes and can send his sons to school. He loves the God of heaven, and the God of heaven provides for all of his needs.”

A love for God took root in Pada's heart. He longed to live for the God who provided for all of his brother's needs. He longed to live for the God who had been providing for all of his needs even before he knew Him. He gave his heart to God and was baptized. Even though Pada didn't have any family who could help him, he entered first grade at the Adventist school when he was 17. He studied hard. He worked hard to pay for his studies.

When he finished school, he decided to teach others about the God who provides for everyone's needs. He went to Mission College (now Asia-Pacific International University) and became a pastor.

Today, Pada is a pastor and a leader of the Adventist Church in Thailand. He has a wife, whom he met at the Adventist school, and they have three daughters. He has a good education. He drives a nice car. He earns a comfortable salary, and he faithfully returns tithe and offerings. His family always has enough food and clothes.

More than anything, he loves telling others about the God of heaven. He returns to the village of his childhood in the mountains on the border between Thailand and Myanmar. The mountain people who live there remain very poor, and few believe in God. Pada always stuffs 50 or more envelopes with 50- or 100-baht banknotes to give to the villagers. It isn't a lot of money, but it's a valuable gift in their eyes. When he hands out the envelopes, the villagers greet him with big smiles. He hears them saying to one another, "Pada is one of us. He grew up here, but he has a good education, a nice car, and a comfortable salary. His God is taking care of him. Maybe his God can also take care of us."

He prays that the mountain people, his people, will know one day that his God is already taking care of them and wants to save them for eternity.

Part of a 1988 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering went to help build a dining hall and second building at Asia-Pacific International University, where Pada trained to become a pastor. As a student, Pada helped construct the dining hall. Just as the impact of that Thirteenth Sabbath Offering is still being felt through the lives of Pada and many who have studied at Asia-Pacific International University, this quarter's offering will also have a long-lasting influence with God's blessing. Thank you for planning a generous offering.

By Andrew McChesney

LESSON 7

“THE GOD OF PEACE”

May 10 — May 16

MEMORY VERSE : “*And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*” [Philippians 4:7]

STUDY HELP : ✓ Thoughts for the Mount of Blessing, pages 27 – 28

INTRODUCTION : “Let the peace of God rule in your hearts; . . . and be ye thankful.” [Colossians 3:15] Forgetting our own difficulties and troubles, let us praise God for an opportunity to live for the glory of His name. Let the fresh blessings of each new day awaken praise in our hearts for these tokens of His loving care. When you open your eyes in the morning, thank God that He has kept you through the night. Thank Him for His peace in your heart. Morning, noon, and night, let gratitude as a sweet perfume ascend to heaven.”—*The Ministry of Healing, page 253*

Sabbath – May 10th

LESSON SCRIPTURE : Romans 5:1; Romans 8:7; Colossians 3:15;

1. How does Paul describe the state of the unregenerate mind?

➤ Romans 8:7 —

NOTE : “In the beginning, man was created in the image of God. He was in perfect harmony with the nature and the law of God; the principles of righteousness were written upon his heart. But sin alienated him from his Maker. He no longer reflected the divine image. His heart was at war with the principles of God's law.”—*The Great Controversy, page 467*

2. How may we be at peace with God?

➤ Romans 5:1 —

NOTE : “Here the truth is laid out in plain lines. This mercy and goodness is wholly undeserved. The grace of Christ is freely to justify the sinner without merit or claim on his part. Justification is a full, complete pardon of sin. The moment a sinner accepts Christ by faith, that moment he is pardoned. The righteousness of Christ is imputed to him, and he is no more to doubt God's forgiving grace.”—*The Signs of the Times, May 19th 1898. (Emphasis added.)*

3. Heaven's Hotline:

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, May 10th, 2025

[Romans 5:1]

↪ ¹ Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

[Romans 8:7]

↪ ⁷ Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

[Colossians 3:15]

↪ ¹⁵ And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

E. G. W. Study Help

Sabbath, May 10th, 2025

Thoughts from the Mount of Blessings

Chapter 2, p. 27-28

“The Beatitudes”

The pure in heart live as in the visible presence of God during the time He apportions them in this world. And they will also see Him face to face in the future, immortal state, as did Adam when he walked and talked with God in Eden. "Now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face." 1 Corinthians 13:12.

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." Matthew 5:9.

Christ is "the Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6), and it is His mission to restore to earth and heaven the peace that sin has broken. "Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 5:1. Whoever consents to renounce sin and open his heart to the love of Christ, becomes a partaker of this heavenly peace.

There is no other ground of peace than this. The grace of Christ received into the heart, subdues enmity; it allays strife and fills the soul with love. He who is at peace with God and his fellow men cannot be made miserable. Envy will not be in his heart; evil surmisings will find no room there; hatred cannot exist. The heart that is in harmony with God is a partaker of the peace of heaven and will diffuse its blessed influence on all around. The spirit of peace will rest like dew upon hearts weary and troubled with worldly strife.

Christ's followers are sent to the world with the message of peace. Whoever, by the quiet, unconscious influence of a holy life, shall reveal the love of Christ; whoever, by word or deed, shall lead another to renounce sin and yield his heart to God, is a peacemaker.

And "blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." The spirit of peace is evidence of their connection with heaven. The sweet savour of Christ surrounds them. The fragrance of the life, the loveliness of the character, reveal to the world the fact that they are children of God. Men take knowledge of them that they have been with Jesus. "Everyone that loves is born of God." "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His;" but "as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." 1 John 4:7; Romans 8:9, 14.

"And the remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many people as a dew from the Lord, as the showers upon the grass, that tarries not for man, nor waits for the sons of men." Micah 5:7.

"Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:10.

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, May 10th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 137

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 10th

The Source of Wisdom

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endures for ever.

Psalm 111:10

It is a great thing to be wise toward God. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. This is heart education, and is of more importance than the education gained merely from books. It is well and essential to obtain a knowledge of the world in which we live, but if we leave eternity out of our reckoning, we shall make a failure from which we can never recover. It will be as the knowledge gained by eating of the fruit of the forbidden tree....

What can the most learned in book lore know aright without a knowledge of the Word of God? Without the education found in the Bible, how shall we reach the next world, where we shall enter the presence of God and see His face? Nothing of this world's wisdom, the knowledge gained from books, presents a true and sure foundation upon which we can build for eternity. Nothing but the bread that comes down from heaven satisfies spiritual hunger. “For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.” ... The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life” (John 6:33, 63).... As we eat the words of Christ we are eating the bread of life, which gives spiritual vitality.

The Word of the only true God is infallible. Infinite wisdom, holiness, power, and love are blended in pointing us to the standard by which God measures character. God's Word so plainly defines the laws of His kingdom that none need to walk in darkness. His law is the transcript of His character. It is the standard that all must reach if they would enter the kingdom of God. No one need walk in uncertainty.... The law of God is not abolished. It will live through the eternal ages. By Christ's death it was magnified, and sin was exposed in its true light.

What a salvation is revealed in the covenant by which God promised to be our Father, His only-begotten Son our Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter, Counsellor, and Sanctifier! Upon no lower ground than this is it safe for us to place our feet.

Daily Scripture

Sabbath, May 10th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 73

God Is My Strength and Portion Forever

- Psa 73:1 **A Psalm of Asaph.** Truly God *is* good to Israel, *even* to such as are of a clean heart.
- Psa 73:2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well-nigh slipped.
- Psa 73:3 For I was envious at the foolish, *when* I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
- Psa 73:4 For *there are* no bands in their death: but their strength *is* firm.
- Psa 73:5 They *are* not in trouble *as other* men; neither are they plagued like *other* men.
- Psa 73:6 Therefore pride compasses them about as a chain; violence covers them *as* a garment.
- Psa 73:7 Their eyes stand out with fatness: they *have* more than heart could wish.
- Psa 73:8 They are corrupt, and speak wickedly *concerning* oppression: they speak loftily.
- Psa 73:9 They set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue walks through the earth.
- Psa 73:10 Therefore his people return hither: and waters of a full *cup* are wrung out to them.
- Psa 73:11 And they say, How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the most High?
- Psa 73:12 Behold, these *are* the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase *in* riches.
- Psa 73:13 Verily I have cleansed my heart *in* vain, and washed my hands in innocency.
- Psa 73:14 For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning.
- Psa 73:15 If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I should offend *against* the generation of thy children.
- Psa 73:16 When I thought to know this, it *was* too painful for me;
- Psa 73:17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; *then* understood I their end.
- Psa 73:18 Surely thou didst set them in slippery places: thou cast them down into destruction.
- Psa 73:19 How are they *brought* into desolation, as in a moment! they are utterly consumed with terrors.
- Psa 73:20 As a dream when *one* awakes; *so*, O Lord, when thou awakes, thou shalt despise their image.
- Psa 73:21 Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins.
- Psa 73:22 So foolish *was* I, and ignorant: I was *as* a beast before thee.
- Psa 73:23 Nevertheless I *am* continually with thee: thou hast holden *me* by my right hand.
- Psa 73:24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me *to* glory.
- Psa 73:25 Whom have I in heaven *but thee?* and *there is* none upon earth *that* I desire beside thee.
- Psa 73:26 My flesh and my heart fails: *but* God *is* the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.
- Psa 73:27 For, lo, they that are far from thee shall perish: thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from thee.
- Psa 73:28 But *it is* good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all thy works.

Children’s Mission Story

Sabbath, May 10th, 2025



Do you remember your first day of school?

Was it scary? Were you nervous? What can you do when you are scared or nervous?

Shim-Shim was a missionary kid who was scared and nervous on her first day of school in Korat, Thailand. She had been homeschooled for first grade. But now Mom said she was a grown-up girl and should study with the other girls and boys at the Seventh-day Adventist mission school. Mom was a missionary who taught fifth grade at the school, so she wouldn't be too far away if Shim-Shim needed help.

Mom saw that Shim-Shim was anxious, and she reminded her that God was always nearby if she needed help. “God will always be your friend,” Mom said. “He will always be there for you when you need Him.”

Shim-Shim was glad for the reminder. But she still felt scared and nervous. She felt wiggly all over as she put on her school uniform for the first time. She liked the white-and-blue uniform. She felt shy, and she was glad that all the children at the mission school wore the same white-and-blue uniform. That way, she wouldn't stick out.

After breakfast, Shim-Shim went to school.

The first thing that she learned was that no one wears shoes into the school building. Shoes carry dirt, and the new school building, which was built with the help of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, was very clean. So, all the kids took off their shoes and put them into a cupboard. At recess time, the children put their shoes back on to play on the playground. Then, when recess ended, they clapped their shoes together to get rid of the dust and put them back into the cupboard until school was over.

Shim-Shim slipped off her shoes and put them into the cupboard. Then she joined other children walking to their classrooms. She walked very slowly toward the second grade classroom. She felt so scared and nervous as she neared the door. Before opening it, she stopped and prayed.

“Dear God,” she said. “Please help me to be kind so I can be a nice girl in class. Amen.”

Inside the classroom, the teacher called Shim-Shim to the front. Shim-Shim was a new student, and she needed to meet her classmates. Even though Shim-Shim knew God had heard her prayer, she felt nervous as she went up front. Her fingers trembled.

“What’s your name?” the teacher said.

“My name is Shim-Shim,” Shim-Shim said.

She smiled and waved to the other children.

“Class, this is Shim-Shim,” the teacher said.

“Hello!” all the children exclaimed together.

Shim-Shim liked the greeting, but she still felt a little scared and a little nervous. What would happen next?

The morning hours passed quickly as Shim-Shim studied grammar, English, and geography. She liked playing outside for PE.

By lunchtime, Shim-Shim felt like she had been studying at the school for a whole year. She was no longer scared. She no longer felt nervous. The other children were nice, and she had made many new friends. God had answered her prayer, and Shim-Shim was super-super happy!

Even missionary kids get scared and nervous at times. While Shim-Shim’s parents are Seventh-day Adventist, many children at Korat Adventist International School in Thailand come from families who haven’t heard about God. When they get scared and nervous, they don’t know that they can pray to Him.

Part of a previous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering went to this school to help more kids learn about God. Your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter also will help children learn about God.

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – May 11th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 19:7; Psalm 119:165; Ephesians 2:13–14;

1. How does Paul describe the work Jesus accomplished on the cross?

➤ **Ephesians 2:13–14** —

NOTES : “Satan may whisper, “You are too great a sinner for Christ to save.” While you acknowledge that you are indeed sinful and unworthy, you may meet the tempter with the cry, “By virtue of the atonement, I claim Christ as my Saviour. I trust not to my own merits, but to the precious blood of Jesus, which cleanses me. This moment I hang my helpless soul on Christ.” The Christian life must be a life of constant, living faith. An unyielding trust, a firm reliance upon Christ, will bring peace and assurance to the soul.”—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, May 3rd, 1881*

2. Who will have great peace, according to the Psalmist?

➤ **Psalm 119:165** —

NOTES : “That which is sowed in this life will be reaped in the great harvest. None can meet God in peace over His broken law; for it has an important part to act in the conversion of the soul. The inspired word declares: “The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul.” [Psalm 19:7]—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, January 13th, 1885*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sunday, May 11th, 2025

[Psalms 19:7]

↳ ⁷ The law of The LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of The LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.

[Psalms 119:165]

↳ ¹⁶⁵ Great peace have they which love Your law: and nothing shall offend them.

[Ephesians 2:13-14]

↳ ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴ For He is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*;

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, May 11th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 138

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 11th

How to Study the Bible

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

John 5:39

It is not enough to study the Bible as other books are studied. In order for it to be understood savingly, the Holy Spirit must move on the heart of the searcher. The same Spirit that inspired the Word must inspire the reader of the Word. Then will be heard the voice of heaven....

The mere reading of the Word will not accomplish the result designed of heaven; it must be studied and cherished in the heart. The knowledge of God is not gained without mental effort. We should diligently study the Bible, asking God for the aid of the Holy Spirit, that we may understand His Word. We should take one verse and concentrate the mind on the task of ascertaining the thought which God has put in that verse for us. We should dwell on the thought till it becomes our own, and we know “*what says the Lord.*”

There is but little benefit derived from a hasty reading of the Scriptures. One may read the Bible through and yet fail to see its beauty or to comprehend its deep and hidden meaning. One passage studied until its significance is clear to the mind and its relation to the plan of salvation is evident, is of more value than the perusal of many chapters with no definite purpose in view and no positive instruction gained. Keep your Bible with you. As you have opportunity, read it; fix the texts in your memory. Even while you are walking the streets you may read a passage and meditate upon it, thus fixing it in mind.

Times that will try men’s souls are just before us, and those who are weak in the faith will not stand the test of those days of peril. The great truths of revelation are to be carefully studied, for we shall all want an intelligent knowledge of the word of God. By Bible study and daily communion with Jesus we shall gain clear, well-defined views of individual responsibility and strength to stand in the day of trial and temptation. He whose life is united to Christ by hidden links will be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Daily Scripture

Sunday, May 11th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 74

Arise, O God, Defend Your Cause

- Psa 74:1 **Maschil of Asaph.** O God, why hast thou cast *us* off for ever? *why* doth thine anger smoke against the sheep of thy pasture?
- Psa 74:2 Remember thy congregation, *which* thou hast purchased of old; the rod of thine inheritance, *which* thou hast redeemed; this mount Zion, wherein thou hast dwelt.
- Psa 74:3 Lift up thy feet unto the perpetual desolations; *even* all *that* the enemy has done wickedly in the sanctuary.
- Psa 74:4 Thine enemies roar in the midst of thy congregations; they set up their ensigns *for* signs.
- Psa 74:5 *A man* was famous according as he had lifted up axes upon the thick trees.
- Psa 74:6 But now they break down the carved work thereof at once with axes and hammers.
- Psa 74:7 They have cast fire into thy sanctuary, they have defiled *by casting down* the dwelling place of thy name to the ground.
- Psa 74:8 They said in their hearts, Let us destroy them together: they have burned up all the synagogues of God in the land.
- Psa 74:9 We see not our signs: *there is* no more any prophet: neither *is there* among us any that knows how long.
- Psa 74:10 O God, how long shall the adversary reproach? shall the enemy blaspheme thy name for ever?
- Psa 74:11 Why withdraw thou thy hand, even thy right hand? pluck *it* out of thy bosom.
- Psa 74:12 For God *is* my King of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.
- Psa 74:13 Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength: thou broke the heads of the dragons in the waters.
- Psa 74:14 Thou broke the heads of leviathan in pieces, *and* gave him *to be* meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness.
- Psa 74:15 Thou didst cleave the fountain and the flood: thou dried up mighty rivers.
- Psa 74:16 The day *is* thine, the night also *is* thine: thou hast prepared the light and the sun.
- Psa 74:17 Thou hast set all the borders of the earth: thou hast made summer and winter.
- Psa 74:18 Remember this, *that* the enemy has reproached, O LORD, and *that* the foolish people have blasphemed thy name.
- Psa 74:19 O deliver not the soul of thy turtledove unto the multitude *of the wicked*: forget not the congregation of thy poor for ever.
- Psa 74:20 Have respect unto the covenant: for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty.
- Psa 74:21 O let not the oppressed return ashamed: let the poor and needy praise thy name.
- Psa 74:22 Arise, O God, plead thine own cause: remember how the foolish man reproaches thee daily.
- Psa 74:23 Forget not the voice of thine enemies: the tumult of those that rise up against thee increases continually.

Monday – May 12th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Isaiah 32:17; Isaiah 48:18; 1 Thessalonians 4:3;

1. How does Isaiah describe the experience of those who hearken to God's commandments?

➤ **Isaiah 48:18** —

NOTES : “The yoke is placed upon the oxen to aid them in drawing the load, to lighten the burden. So with the yoke of Christ. When our will is swallowed up in the will of God, and we use His gifts to bless others, we shall find life's burden light. He who walks in the way of God's commandments is walking in company with Christ, and in His love the heart is at rest.”—*The Desire of Ages, page 331*

2. How is the effect of right doing further described?

➤ **Isaiah 32:17** —

NOTES : “ “This is the will of God” concerning you, “even your sanctification.” [1 Thessalonians 4:3] Is it your will also? Your sins may be as mountains before you; but if you humble your heart and confess your sins, trusting in the merits of a crucified and risen Saviour, He will forgive and will cleanse you from all unrighteousness. God demands of you entire conformity to His law. This law is the echo of His voice saying to you, Holier, yes, holier still. Desire the fullness of the grace of Christ. Let your heart be filled with an intense longing for His righteousness, the work of which God's word declares is peace, and its effect quietness and assurance forever.”—*The Acts of the Apostles, page 566*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Monday, May 12th, 2025

[Isaiah 32:17]

17 And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.

[Isaiah 48:18]

18 O that you had hearkened to My commandments! then had your peace been as a river, and your righteousness as the waves of the sea:

[1 Thessalonians 4:3]

3 For this is the will of God, *even* your sanctification, that you should abstain from fornication:

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, May 12th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 139

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 12th

A Divine Helper

But God has revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searches all things, yea, the deep things of God.

1 Corinthians 2:10

The more closely we adhere to the simplicity of truth, the more surely do we comprehend its deep meaning. Then if the heart is under the inspiration of the Spirit of God, it can say, “*The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding to the simple.*” (Psalm 119:130). This means the word is interpreted by the Holy Spirit, not merely as perused by the student.

It is not the mere letter of the words which gives the light and the understanding, but the Word is in a special manner written upon the heart, applied by the Holy Spirit. To the mind and heart consecrated to God, an increased measure of understanding is given as the light is communicated to others...

The more room one shall give for the entrance of the Word of God, the more he is enriched intellectually as well as spiritually. He will have a clearer and less biased judgment and his views will be more comprehensive. His estimates of spiritual things will be more correct. His understanding, under the working power of the Holy Spirit, is exercised to digest the truth by making it a personal benefit by the strengthening of the soul to do self-denying works.

Oh, I thank the Lord with heart and soul and voice that the Lord can, by the entrance of the Word into the heart, enlarge our faculties of understanding distinctly and clearly, not only spiritual things but the temporal things with which we are connected.

The sanctifying grace of God upon the human mind sanctifies the reasoning powers. This will be kept before the mind, Will this action that I propose to enter into glorify God? There will be an humble spirit of deep humility, and less dependence will be placed upon human wisdom and far more confidence to reach out after God with the humble prayer, Teach me Thy way and Thy will. And the Lord will create a train of thought that will be safe to follow. Past experiences will be revived, and the safe way will be fastened in the mind.

The divine power cooperates with the human.

Daily Scripture

Monday, May 12th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 75

God Will Judge with Equity

- Psa 75:1 **To the chief Musician, Altaschith, A Psalm or Song of Asaph.** Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks, *unto thee* do we give thanks: for *that* thy name is near thy wondrous works declare.
- Psa 75:2 When I shall receive the congregation I will judge uprightly.
- Psa 75:3 The earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved: I bear up the pillars of it. Selah.
- Psa 75:4 I said unto the fools, Deal not foolishly: and to the wicked, Lift not up the horn:
- Psa 75:5 Lift not up your horn on high: speak *not with* a stiff neck.
- Psa 75:6 For promotion *cometh* neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.
- Psa 75:7 But God *is* the judge: he puts down one, and sets up another.
- Psa 75:8 For in the hand of the LORD *there is* a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and he pours out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring *them* out, *and* drink *them*.
- Psa 75:9 But I will declare for ever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.
- Psa 75:10 All the horns of the wicked also will I cut off; *but* the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

Tuesday – May 13th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Isaiah 57:20–21; Matthew 8:25]; John 14:27;

1. Which ones can have no peace?

➤ **Isaiah 57:20–21** —

NOTES : “Sin has destroyed our peace. While self is unsubdued, we can find no rest. The masterful passions of the heart no human power can control. We are as helpless here as were the disciples to quiet the raging storm. But He who spoke peace to the billows of Galilee has spoken the word of peace for every soul. However fierce the tempest, those who turn to Jesus with the cry, “Lord, save us,” [Matthew 8:25] will find deliverance. His grace, that reconciles the soul to God, quiets the strife of human passion, and in His love the heart is at rest.”—*The Desire of Ages, page 336*

2. What precious gift did the Lord leave with His disciples?

➤ **John 14:27** —

NOTES : “The peace that Christ bequeathed to His disciples, and for which we pray, is the peace that is born of truth, and which cannot be banished by divisions caused by the truth. Without may be wars and fighting, jealousies, envies, hatred, strife; but these do not affect the peace of Christ, for it is that which the world neither gives nor takes away. His peace was that which was born of love for those who were plotting His death. But peace cannot be gained by a compromise of principle.”—*Bible Echo, April 9th, 1894*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, May 13th, 2025

[Isaiah 57:20-21]

- ↪ ²⁰ But the wicked *are* like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.
²¹ *There is no peace*, said my God, to the wicked.

[Matthew 8:25]

- ↪ ²⁵ And His disciples came to *Him*, and awoke Him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish.

[John 14:27]

- ↪ ²⁷ Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you: not as the world gives, give I to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, May 13th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 140

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 13th

Heart Work

Behold, thou desire truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

Psalm 51:6

Truth must become truth to the receiver, to all intents and purposes. It must be stamped on the heart. “*With the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*” (Romans 10:10). “*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength.*” (Mark 12:30). This is the service that God accepts.... The heart is the citadel of the being, and until that is wholly on the Lord’s side the enemy will gain constant victories over us through his subtle temptations....

Full and abundant is the provision that has been made that we may have mercy, grace, and peace. Why, then, do human beings act as if they entertained the idea that the truth is a yoke of bondage? It is because the heart has never tasted and seen that the Lord is good.

The world is full of false teaching; and if we do not resolutely search the Scriptures for ourselves, we shall accept the world’s errors for truth, adopt its customs, and deceive our own hearts. Its doctrines and customs are at variance with the truth of God....

It is a matter of the highest importance and interest to us that we understand what truth is, and our petitions should go forth with intense earnestness that we may be guided into all truth.

Truth is sacred, divine. It is stronger and more powerful than anything else in the formation of a character after the likeness of Christ. In it there is fullness of joy. When it is cherished in the heart the love of Christ is preferred to the love of any human being. This is Christianity. This is the love of God in the soul. Thus pure, unadulterated truth occupies the citadel of the being....

When the truth as it is in Jesus moulds our characters it will be seen to be truth indeed. As it is contemplated by the believer it will grow brighter, shining with its original beauty. It will increase in value, quickening and vivifying the mind and subduing selfish, un-Christlike coarseness of character. It will elevate our aspirations, enabling us to reach the perfect standard of holiness.

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, May 13th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 76

Who Can Stand Before You?

- Psa 76:1 **To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm or Song of Asaph.** In Judah *is* God known: his name *is* great in Israel.
- Psa 76:2 In Salem also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion.
- Psa 76:3 There brake he the arrows of the bow, the shield, and the sword, and the battle. Selah.
- Psa 76:4 Thou *art* more glorious *and* excellent than the mountains of prey.
- Psa 76:5 The stout-hearted are spoiled, they have slept their sleep: and none of the men of might have found their hands.
- Psa 76:6 At thy rebuke, O God of Jacob, both the chariot and horse are cast into a dead sleep.
- Psa 76:7 Thou, *even* thou, *art* to be feared: and who may stand in thy sight when once thou art angry?
- Psa 76:8 Thou didst cause judgment to be heard from heaven; the earth feared, and was still,
- Psa 76:9 When God arose to judgment, to save all the meek of the earth. Selah.
- Psa 76:10 Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain.
- Psa 76:11 Vow, and pay unto the LORD your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared.
- Psa 76:12 He shall cut off the spirit of princes: *he is* terrible to the kings of the earth.

Wednesday – May 14th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 10:34; Ephesians 4:1–3;

1. What characteristics in the Christian will enable the Holy Spirit to bring unity and peace to God's people?

➤ **Ephesians 4:1–3 —**

NOTES : “The apostle exhorts his brethren to manifest in their lives the power of the truth which he had presented to them. By meekness and gentleness, forbearance and love, they were to exemplify the character of Christ and the blessings of his salvation. There is but one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith. As members of the body of Christ, all members are to be animated by the same spirit and the same hope. Harmony and union existing among men of varied dispositions is the strongest witness that can be borne that God has sent His Son into the world to save sinners. It is our privilege to bear this witness. Our characters must be moulded in harmony with His character, our wills must be surrendered to His will.” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, November 12th, 1908*

2. What warning did Christ give to His disciples?

➤ **Matthew 10:34 —**

NOTES : “The true peace will come among God's people when through united zeal and earnest prayer the false peace, that exists to a large degree, is disturbed. . . . Those who are under the influence of the spirit of God will not be fanatical, but calm, steadfast, free from extravagance. But let all who have had the light of truth shining clear and distinct upon their pathway, be careful how they cry, Peace and safety. Be careful how you make the first move to suppress the messages of truth. Be careful what influence you exert at this time. Those who profess to believe the special truths for this time need to be converted and sanctified by the truth. As Christians, we are made depositories of sacred truth, and we are not to keep the truth in the outer court, but bring it into the sanctuary of the soul. Then the church will possess divine vitality throughout. The weak shall be as David, and David as the angel of the Lord.” —*General Conference Daily Bulletin, February 6th, 1893*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, May 14th, 2025

[Matthew 10:34]

34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.

[Ephesians 4:1-3]

1 I therefore, the prisoner of The Lord, beseech you that you walk worthy of the vocation wherewith you are called,

2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of The Spirit in the bond of peace.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, May 14th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 141

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 14th

The Highest Culture

Happy is the man that finds wisdom, and the man that gets understanding.

Proverbs 3:13

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the man who consents to be moulded and fashioned after the divine similitude is the noblest specimen of the work of God...

The experimental knowledge of true godliness, in daily consecration and service to God, ensures the highest culture of the mind, soul, and body.... The impartation of divine power honours our sincere striving after wisdom for the conscientious use of our highest faculties to honour God and bless our fellow men. As these faculties are derived from God, and not self-created, they should be appreciated as talents from God to be employed in His service.

The Heaven-entrusted faculties of the mind are to be treated as the higher powers, to rule the kingdom of the body. The natural appetites and passions are to be brought under the control of the conscience and the spiritual affections....

The religion of Jesus Christ never degrades the receiver; it never makes him coarse or rough, discourteous or self-important, passionate or hardhearted. On the contrary, it refines the taste, sanctifies the judgment, purifies and ennobles the thoughts by bringing them into captivity to Jesus Christ.

God's ideal for His children is higher than the highest human thought can reach. The living God has given in His holy law a transcript of His character. The greatest Teacher the world has ever known is Jesus Christ. And what is the standard He has given for all who believe in Him to reach? “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect” (Matthew 5:48). As God is perfect in His high sphere of action, so man may be perfect in his human sphere. The ideal of Christian character is Christlikeness. There is opened before us a path of continual advancement. We have an object to reach, a standard to gain which includes everything good and pure and noble and elevated. There should be continual striving and constant progress onward and upward toward perfection of character.

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, May 14th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 77

In the Day of Trouble I Seek the Lord

- Psa 77:1 **To the chief Musician, to Jeduthun, A Psalm of Asaph.** I cried unto God with my voice, *even* unto God with my voice; and he gave ear unto me.
- Psa 77:2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord: my sore ran in the night, and ceased not: my soul refused to be comforted.
- Psa 77:3 I remembered God, and was troubled: I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. Selah.
- Psa 77:4 Thou hold mine eyes waking: I am so troubled that I cannot speak.
- Psa 77:5 I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times.
- Psa 77:6 I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search.
- Psa 77:7 Will the Lord cast off for ever? and will he be favourable no more?
- Psa 77:8 Is his mercy clean gone for ever? doth *his* promise fail for evermore?
- Psa 77:9 Has God forgotten to be gracious? has he in anger shut up his tender mercies? Selah.
- Psa 77:10 And I said, This *is* my infirmity: *but I will remember* the years of the right hand of the most High.
- Psa 77:11 I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old.
- Psa 77:12 I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings.
- Psa 77:13 Thy way, O God, *is* in the sanctuary: who *is so* great a God as *our* God?
- Psa 77:14 Thou *art* the God that does wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people.
- Psa 77:15 Thou hast with *thine* arm redeemed thy people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah.
- Psa 77:16 The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee; they were afraid: the depths also were troubled.
- Psa 77:17 The clouds poured out water: the skies sent out a sound: thine arrows also went abroad.
- Psa 77:18 The voice of thy thunder *was* in the heaven: the lightnings lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook.
- Psa 77:19 Thy way *is* in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known.
- Psa 77:20 Thou led thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Thursday – May 15th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 10:35–37; John 16:33;

1. What warning did Christ give about the division the truth would bring in the home?

➤ **Matthew 10:35–37** —

NOTES : “While one member of the family gives his heart to God, the others do not. They are still under the control of the Saviour's worst enemy, and they feel annoyed and angry that there has come to be a division in their household. He who has accepted of Christ is no less dutiful than before; on the contrary, he is more kind, more faithful, more affectionate, because his nature is being purified and sanctified and ennobled by the truth. But the Master of the Christian and the master of the unbelievers are in deadly conflict. Those who love not God are at enmity with those who do love God, and they are stirred up with bitter opposition by the spirit of Satan, who keeps them from responding to the drawing of Christ.” —*Signs of the Times, November 26th, 1894*

2. What precious encouragement does Christ give to those who are suffering tribulation?

➤ **John 16:33** —

NOTES : “It is our privilege to carry with us the credentials of our faith, love, joy, and peace. When we do this, we shall be able to present the mighty arguments of the cross of Christ. When we learn to walk by faith and not by feeling, we shall have help from God just when we need it, and His peace will come into our hearts. It was this simple life of obedience and trust that Enoch lived. If we learn this lesson of simple trust, ours may be the testimony that he received, that he pleased God. Then instead of mourning and bitter repining, we shall make melody in our hearts to the Lord.” —*Historical Sketches, page 133*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Thursday, May 15th, 2025

[Matthew 10:35-37]

- ↪ ³⁵ For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.
- ³⁶ And a man's foes *shall be* they of his own household.
- ³⁷ He that loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me: and he that loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

[John 16:33]

- ↪ ³³ These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you might have peace. In the world you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, May 15th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 142

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 15th

The Royal Path

Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.

Psalm 73:25

The soul that cherishes the love of Christ is full of freedom, light, and joy in Christ. In such a soul there are no divided thoughts. The whole man yearns after God. He goes not to men for counsel, to know what is duty, but to the Lord Jesus, the source of all wisdom. He searches the Word of God that he may find out what standard has been set up.

Can we ever find a surer guide than the Lord Jesus? True religion is embodied in the Word of God and consists in being under the guidance of the Holy One in thought, word, and deed. He who is the way, the truth, and the life takes the humble, earnest, wholehearted seeker and says, Follow Me. He leads him in the narrow way to holiness and heaven. Christ has opened this way for us at great cost to Himself. We are not left to stumble our way along in darkness. Jesus is at our right hand, proclaiming, I am the way. And all who decide to follow the Lord fully will be led in the royal path, yea more, the divine path cast up for the ransomed of the Lord to walk in.

The more we learn of Christ through His Word, the more we feel our need of Him in our experience. We should not rest until we can rest in wearing the yoke of Christ and lifting His burdens. The more faithful we are in service to Him, the more we shall love Him, the more we shall magnify Him. Every duty, large or small, that we perform, will be done with faithfulness, and as we follow on to know the Lord the greater will be our desire to glorify Him.

We are individually now testifying to the world of the power of the grace of Christ in the transformation of human character from glory to glory, from character to character. In beholding Christ our pattern, who is pure and holy and undefiled, we are being prepared for the society of the heavenly angels. If Christ is to be our head and Prince in the heavenly courts, it becomes us to inquire, What is Christ to us now? Can we say as we contemplate our Redeemer, “Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee”?

Daily Scripture

Thursday, May 15th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 78

Tell the Coming Generation

- Psa 78:1 **Maschil of Asaph.** Give ear, O my people, *to* my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- Psa 78:2 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:
- Psa 78:3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.
- Psa 78:4 We will not hide *them* from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he has done.
- Psa 78:5 For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children:
- Psa 78:6 That the generation to come might know *them, even* the children *which* should be born; *who* should arise and declare *them* to their children:
- Psa 78:7 That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:
- Psa 78:8 And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation *that* set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not steadfast with God.
- Psa 78:9 The children of Ephraim, *being* armed, *and* carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle.
- Psa 78:10 They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in his law;
- Psa 78:11 And forgot his works, and his wonders that he had shewed them.
- Psa 78:12 Marvellous things did he in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, *in* the field of Zoan.
- Psa 78:13 He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters to stand as an heap.
- Psa 78:14 In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.
- Psa 78:15 He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave *them* drink as *out of* the great depths.
- Psa 78:16 He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.
- Psa 78:17 And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness.
- Psa 78:18 And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust.
- Psa 78:19 Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?
- Psa 78:20 Behold, he smote the rock, that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed; can he give bread also? can he provide flesh for his people?
- Psa 78:21 Therefore the LORD heard *this*, and was wroth: so a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also came up against Israel;
- Psa 78:22 Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation:
- Psa 78:23 Though he had commanded the clouds from above, and opened the doors of heaven,
- Psa 78:24 And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven.
- Psa 78:25 Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full.
- Psa 78:26 He caused an east wind to blow in the heaven: and by his power he brought in the south wind.
- Psa 78:27 He rained flesh also upon them as dust, and feathered fowls like as the sand of the sea:
- Psa 78:28 And he let *it* fall in the midst of their camp, round about their habitations.
- Psa 78:29 So they did eat, and were well filled: for he gave them their own desire;
- Psa 78:30 They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat *was* yet in their mouths,
- Psa 78:31 The wrath of God came upon them, and slew the fattest of them, and smote down the chosen *men* of Israel.
- Psa 78:32 For all this they sinned still, and believed not for his wondrous works.
- Psa 78:33 Therefore their days did he consume in vanity, and their years in trouble.

- Psa 78:34 When he slew them, then they sought him: and they returned and enquired early after God.
- Psa 78:35 And they remembered that God *was* their rock, and the high God their redeemer.
- Psa 78:36 Nevertheless they did flatter him with their mouth, and they lied unto him with their tongues.
- Psa 78:37 For their heart was not right with him, neither were they steadfast in his covenant.
- Psa 78:38 But he, *being* full of compassion, forgave *their* iniquity, and destroyed *them* not: yea, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath.
- Psa 78:39 For he remembered that they *were but* flesh; a wind that passes away, and cometh not again.
- Psa 78:40 How oft did they provoke him in the wilderness, *and* grieve him in the desert!
- Psa 78:41 Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.
- Psa 78:42 They remembered not his hand, *nor* the day when he delivered them from the enemy.
- Psa 78:43 How he had wrought his signs in Egypt, and his wonders in the field of Zoan:
- Psa 78:44 And had turned their rivers into blood; and their floods, that they could not drink.
- Psa 78:45 He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.
- Psa 78:46 He gave also their increase unto the caterpillar, and their labour unto the locust.
- Psa 78:47 He destroyed their vines with hail, and their sycamore trees with frost.
- Psa 78:48 He gave up their cattle also to the hail, and their flocks to hot thunderbolts.
- Psa 78:49 He cast upon them the fierceness of his anger, wrath, and indignation, and trouble, by sending evil angels *among them*.
- Psa 78:50 He made a way to his anger; he spared not their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence;
- Psa 78:51 And smote all the firstborn in Egypt; the chief of *their* strength in the tabernacles of Ham:
- Psa 78:52 But made his own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.
- Psa 78:53 And he led them on safely, so that they feared not: but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.
- Psa 78:54 And he brought them to the border of his sanctuary, *even to* this mountain, *which* his right hand had purchased.
- Psa 78:55 He cast out the heathen also before them, and divided them an inheritance by line, and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.
- Psa 78:56 Yet they tempted and provoked the most high God, and kept not his testimonies:
- Psa 78:57 But turned back, and dealt unfaithfully like their fathers: they were turned aside like a deceitful bow.
- Psa 78:58 For they provoked him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their graven images.
- Psa 78:59 When God heard *this*, he was wrath, and greatly abhorred Israel:
- Psa 78:60 So that he forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent *which* he placed among men;
- Psa 78:61 And delivered his strength into captivity, and his glory into the enemy's hand.
- Psa 78:62 He gave his people over also unto the sword; and was wroth with his inheritance.
- Psa 78:63 The fire consumed their young men; and their maidens were not given to marriage.
- Psa 78:64 Their priests fell by the sword; and their widows made no lamentation.
- Psa 78:65 Then the Lord awaked as one out of sleep, *and* like a mighty man that shouts by reason of wine.
- Psa 78:66 And he smote his enemies in the hinder parts: he put them to a perpetual reproach.
- Psa 78:67 Moreover he refused the tabernacle of Joseph, and chose not the tribe of Ephraim:
- Psa 78:68 But chose the tribe of Judah, the mount Zion which he loved.
- Psa 78:69 And he built his sanctuary like high *palaces*, like the earth which he has established for ever.
- Psa 78:70 He chose David also his servant, and took him from the sheepfolds:
- Psa 78:71 From following the ewes great with young he brought him to feed Jacob his people, and Israel his inheritance.
- Psa 78:72 So he fed them according to the integrity of his heart; and guided them by the skilfulness of his hands.

Preparation Day – May 16th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Luke 19:42; Hebrews 12:14 ; 2 Peter 3:14;

1. If we are to see the Lord, what must be the goal of our lives?

➤ **Hebrews 12:14** —

NOTES : “What is holiness? Doing everything with an eye single to the glory of God. Holiness is so living that men shall see your good works, and by seeing them shall glorify God. This is the work of the unfallen angels of heaven. This was the life work of Christ upon the earth. Christ has given this command to every soul that believes in His name.” —*Medical Missionary, October 1st, 1893*

2. What counsel does Peter give to those who look for the Second Coming of Christ?

➤ **2 Peter 3:14** —

NOTES : “The hour of probation is fast passing; the cup of God's indignation is fast filling. Will those who profess to be waiting for the appearing of their Lord from heaven be found wanting in that day, or will they awake from their carnal security, repent of their indifference and hardness of heart, and in this their day give most diligent heed to the things which belong to their peace? Must the fast westering sun of merciful probation set, and the sentence be pronounced, “But now they are hid from thine eyes?” [Luke 19:42]” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, July 10th, 1879*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, May 16th, 2025

[Luke 19:42]

↳ ⁴² Saying, **If you had known, even you, at least in this your day, the things which belong to your peace! but now they are hid from your eyes.**

[Hebrews 12:14]

↳ ¹⁴ Follow peace with all *men*, and holiness, without which no man shall see The Lord:

[2 Peter 3:14]

↳ ¹⁴ Wherefore, beloved, seeing that you look for such things, be diligent that you may be found of Him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, May 16th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 143

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 16th

In Touch With the Infinite

Thus says the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: but let him that glories, glory in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, says the Lord.

Jeremiah 9:23, 24

There is an education which is essentially worldly. Its aim is success in the world, the gratification of selfish ambition. To secure this education many students spend time and money in crowding their minds with unnecessary knowledge. The world accounts them learned; but God is not in their thoughts....

There is another kind of education that is very different. Its fundamental principle, as stated by the greatest Teacher the world has ever known, is, “*Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness.*” (Matthew 6:33). Its aim is not selfish; its purpose is to honour God.... God is the source of all wisdom. He is infinitely wise and just and good. Apart from Christ, the wisest men that ever lived cannot comprehend Him. They may profess to be wise; they may glory in their attainments; but mere intellectual knowledge, aside from the great truths that centre in Christ, is as nothingness....

If men could see for a moment beyond the range of finite vision, if they could catch a glimpse of the Eternal, every mouth would be stopped in its boasting. Men living in this little atom of a world are finite; God has unnumbered worlds that are obedient to His laws, and are conducted with reference to His glory. When men have gone as far in scientific research as their limited powers will permit, there is still an infinity beyond what they can apprehend.

Before men can be truly wise, they must realize their dependence upon God, and be filled with His wisdom. God is the source of intellectual as well as spiritual power. The greatest men who have reached what the world regards as wonderful heights in science are not to be compared with the beloved John or the apostle Paul. It is when intellectual and spiritual power are combined that the highest standard of manhood is attained.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, May 16th, 2025

Psalms

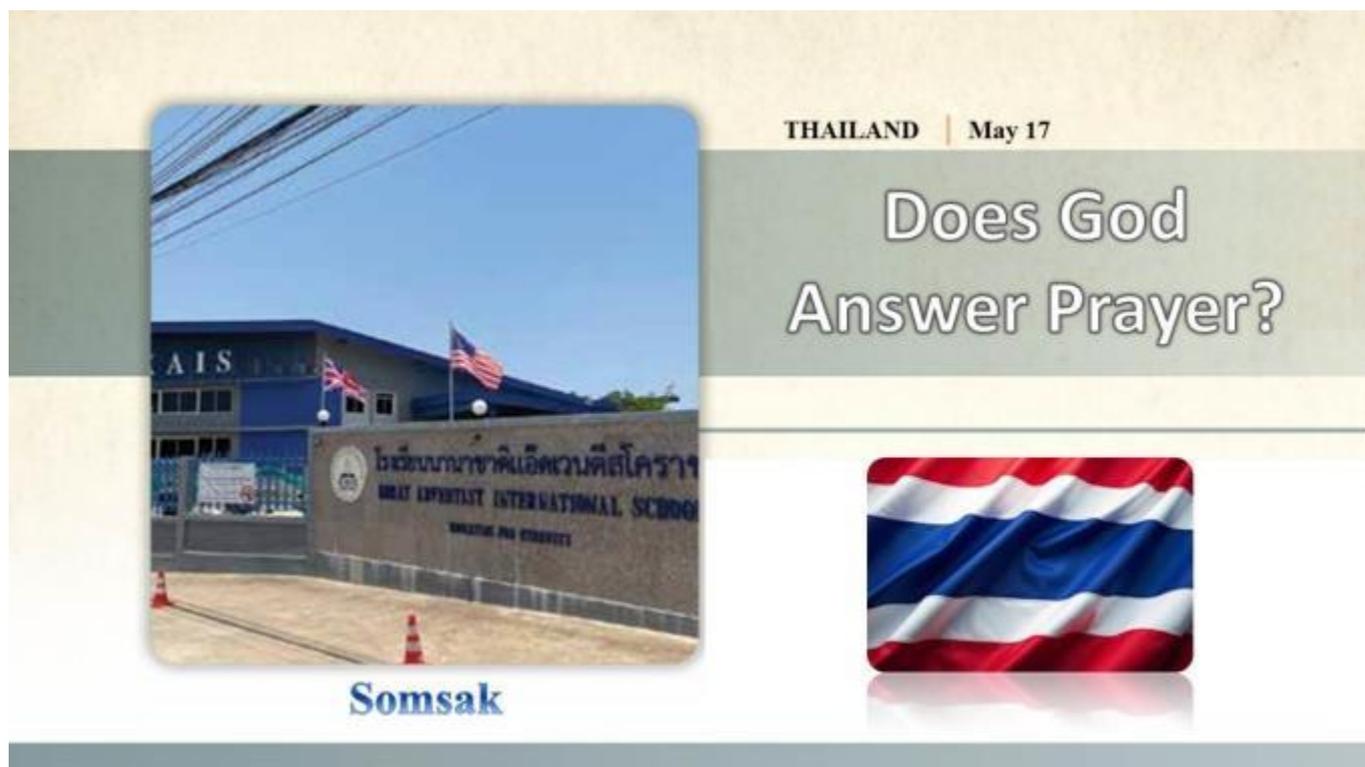
Chapter 79

How Long, O Lord?

- Psa 79:1 **A Psalm of Asaph.** O God, the heathen are come into thine inheritance; thy holy temple have they defiled; they have laid Jerusalem on heaps.
- Psa 79:2 The dead bodies of thy servants have they given *to be* meat unto the fowls of the heaven, the flesh of thy saints unto the beasts of the earth.
- Psa 79:3 Their blood have they shed like water round about Jerusalem; and *there was* none to bury *them*.
- Psa 79:4 We are become a reproach to our neighbours, a scorn and derision to them that are round about us.
- Psa 79:5 How long, LORD? wilt thou be angry for ever? shall thy jealousy burn like fire?
- Psa 79:6 Pour out thy wrath upon the heathen that have not known thee, and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon thy name.
- Psa 79:7 For they have devoured Jacob, and laid waste his dwelling place.
- Psa 79:8 O remember not against us former iniquities: let thy tender mercies speedily prevent us: for we are brought very low.
- Psa 79:9 Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name: and deliver us, and purge away our sins, for thy name's sake.
- Psa 79:10 Wherefore should the heathen say, Where *is* their God? let him be known among the heathen in our sight *by* the revenging of the blood of thy servants *which is* shed.
- Psa 79:11 Let the sighing of the prisoner come before thee; according to the greatness of thy power preserve thou those that are appointed to die;
- Psa 79:12 And render unto our neighbours sevenfold into their bosom their reproach, wherewith they have reproached thee, O Lord.
- Psa 79:13 So we thy people and sheep of thy pasture will give thee thanks for ever: we will shew forth thy praise to all generations.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, May 16th, 2025



Somsak first heard about praying to the God of heaven when he was a little boy in kindergarten at the Seventh-day Adventist school in Korat, Thailand. Like most people in Thailand, he came from a non-Christian family and didn't know anything about the God of heaven.

At the start of kindergarten every morning, Thailand's flag was raised high on a flagpole in the yard of Korat Adventist International School. Then all the children from kindergarten and the higher grades stood near the flag for the playing of the Thai national anthem. After all, the teachers led the children in singing "The Prayer Song" — a beautiful song that asks the God of heaven to bless their day.

When Somsak grew a little older, he learned to pray all by himself. His second grade teacher taught him how. At the beginning of class every day, the teacher started a prayer and invited Somsak and the other children to add to it. The teacher would say, "Dear God." Then one child would say, "Please make me smart." Another would say, "Please keep me safe." And a third would add, "Please help me to be good." The teacher would end the prayer by saying, "In Jesus' name, Amen."

After learning how to pray at school, Somsak began to pray on his own in the second grade. But he didn't pray every day. He didn't even pray every month. He only prayed as a last resort. Usually, he felt smart. Usually, he felt safe. But sometimes he worried that he wasn't smart or that he wasn't safe. Then he prayed, "Dear God, Please make me smart. Please keep me safe. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Somsak also prayed on his own as a last resort in the third grade and in the fourth grade. After that, he prayed in the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth grades.

Today, he is a strong 16-year-old teenager in the tenth grade. He may not have prayed every day, but he has prayed for many years. How many of his prayers do you think God has answered? One hundred? Fifty? Perhaps 10 or 15? If you ask Somsak, he will tell you none. Zero. Zilch.

“I haven’t felt that God has answered my prayers,” he said. “I trust more in myself.”

Somsak may not have prayed every day. He may only pray as a last resort. But do think that it’s possible that God hasn’t answered even one of his prayers? What do you think? If you said that God surely has answered at least one of his prayers, then you are right. In the Bible, God says that He answers people even before they pray. He says, “It shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear” (Isaiah 65:24, NKJV).

So, why does Somsak think that God hasn’t answered his prayers? Could it be that God has answered and Somsak simply hasn’t noticed? Could it be that we also pray and have not noticed that God has answered?

Teachers at Somsak’s school are praying that he knows the God of heaven who hears and answers prayer. It can be difficult for a boy or a girl to believe in the God of heaven when no one else in their family does. The teachers are praying that Somsak and all the other children at Korat Adventist International School see that God really does hear and answer prayers.

Would you like to join the teachers in praying for Somsak and the other children?

Let’s pray.

Dear God, Thank You for the Korat Adventist International School where Somsak studies in Korat, Thailand. Thank You for the many children around the world who gave generously to a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering that helped build the school. Now, please help Somsak and the other children at the school who don’t know You to see that You love them and do indeed hear and answer prayers. Help them — and us — to notice Your answers to prayer. Please also bless this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering that will help other children in Asia learn about You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

By Andrew McChesney

LESSON 8

“WONDERFUL, COUNSELLOR”

May 17 — May 23

📖 MEMORY VERSE : *“For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” [Isaiah 9:6]*

? STUDY HELP : ✓ The Upward Look, page 74

🗨 INTRODUCTION : “We lose many blessings by failing to bring our needs and cares and sorrows to our Saviour. He is the wonderful Counsellor. He looks upon His church with intense interest, and with a heart full of tender sympathy. He enters into the depth of our necessities. But our ways are not always His ways. He sees the result of every action, and He asks us to trust patiently in His wisdom, not in the supposedly-wise plans of our own making. Lay all your plans at the feet of the Redeemer. And do not cease to pray. If the answer tarry, wait for it. Let your importunate prayers continue to ascend to God. If it be for His name's glory, the soothing words will be spoken, “Be it unto thee according to thy word.” [Luke 1:38]”—*Signs of the Times, February 14th, 1906*

Sabbath – May 17th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Zechariah 6:12–13; Luke 1:38; John 3:16; John 16:26-27; 2 Corinthians 5:19;

1. How does Zechariah describe the counsel between the Father and the Son concerning man's salvation?

➤ Zechariah 6:12–13 —

NOTE : “The work of Christ as man's intercessor is presented in that beautiful prophecy of Zechariah concerning Him “whose name is the Branch.” Says the prophet: “He shall build the temple of the Lord; and He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon His [the Father's] throne; and He shall be a priest upon His throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between Them both.” [Zechariah 6:12-13] The love of the Father, no less than of the Son, is the fountain of salvation for the lost race. Said Jesus to His disciples before He went away: “I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: for the Father Himself loves you.” [John 16:26-27] God was “in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself.” [2 Corinthians 5:19] And in the ministration in the sanctuary above, “the counsel of peace shall be between Them both.” [Zechariah 6:13] “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” [John 3:16]”—*The Great Controversy, pages 415 – 416*

2. Heaven's Hotline:

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, May 17th, 2025

[Zechariah 6:12-13]

- ↪ ¹² And speak to him, saying, This speaks The LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name *is* The BRANCH; and He shall grow up out of His place, and He shall build the temple of The LORD:
¹³ Even He shall build the temple of The LORD; and He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon His throne; and He shall be a priest upon His throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.

[Luke 1:38]

- ↪ ³⁸ And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of The Lord; be it to me according to your word. And the angel departed from her.

[John 3:16]

- ↪ ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

[John 16:26-27]

- ↪ ²⁶ At that day you shall ask in My name: and I say not to you, that I will pray The Father for you:
²⁷ For The Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came out from God.

[2 Corinthians 5:19]

- ↪ ¹⁹ To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them; and has committed to us The Word of reconciliation.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

E. G. W. Study Help

Sabbath, May 17th, 2025

The Upward Look Chapter 3, p. 74

“Who is King?”

March 1

Who Is King?

For one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.

Matthew 23:8

Before God’s servants take up any work, they are to pray to God in all humility, with a sense of their dependence upon God, realizing that they must be worked by His Spirit. They are to guard against setting themselves up as kings, because if they do this, they will dishonour the Lord and make a failure of their work. “All ye are brethren.”

Man’s ingenuity, his judgment, his power to execute, all come from God. To God’s service all should be devoted. The principles of the Bible are to control the Lord’s servants. His workers are ever to do justice and judgment, steadfastly keeping the way of the Lord. “Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness.” [Matthew 6:33] Make this the point round which your life centres, and then all things needful will be given you. Put the Redeemer’s interests before your own or those of any other human being. He has bought you, and all your powers belong to Him.

Make no man your king. Who is our King? He who is called, “Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” [Isaiah 9:6] He is our Saviour, our King. To Him you may always go with your burdens. However great your sins, you need have no fear of repulse. If you have injured your brother, go to him, and confess the wrong you have done him. When you have done this, you may come to your King, asking Him for pardon. He will never take advantage of your confessions. He will never disappoint you. He has pledged His word to forgive your transgressions and to cleanse you from all defilement. The names of all His people are written in His book of life.

Remember that Christ is our only hope, our only refuge. He “bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.” [1 Peter 2:24] “For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies to the purifying of the flesh: how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the New Testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.” [Hebrews 9:13-15]—Manuscript 3, March 1, 1903, “To Every Man His Work.”

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, May 17th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 144

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 17th

The Witness of the Spirit

The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.

Romans 8:16

You may have the witness of the Spirit that your ways please God. This is obtained by believing in the Word of God, by appropriating that Word to your own soul. This is eating the bread of life, and this will bring eternal life. Compare scripture with scripture. Study the representation of the life of a true Christian as delineated in the Word of God.

The law of God is the great standard of righteousness. This the apostle declares is holy, just, and good. David says, “The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul” (Psalm 19:7). Christ says, “If ye love me, keep my commandments.” ... “He that has my commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves me: and he that loves me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him” (John 14:15, 21). This is most assuredly the witness of the Spirit... “If ye keep my commandments”—from the heart—“ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love” (John 15:10).

Those who are obedient to the will of God will not have a hard and miserable time in this life. Hear again the words of Christ: “These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full” (verse 11). This is the witness which it is the privilege of all to have—the joy of Christ in the soul through appropriating the word of God ... and bringing the requirements of Christ into the practical life. There is full assurance of hope in believing every word of Christ, believing in Him, being united to Him by living faith. When this is his experience, the human being is no longer under the law, for the law no longer condemns his course of action....

To them that believe, Christ is precious. His Spirit moving upon the mind and heart of the believer is in perfect agreement with that which is written in the Word. The Spirit and the Word agree perfectly. Thus the Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are born of God.

Daily Scripture

Sabbath, May 17th, 2025

Psalms

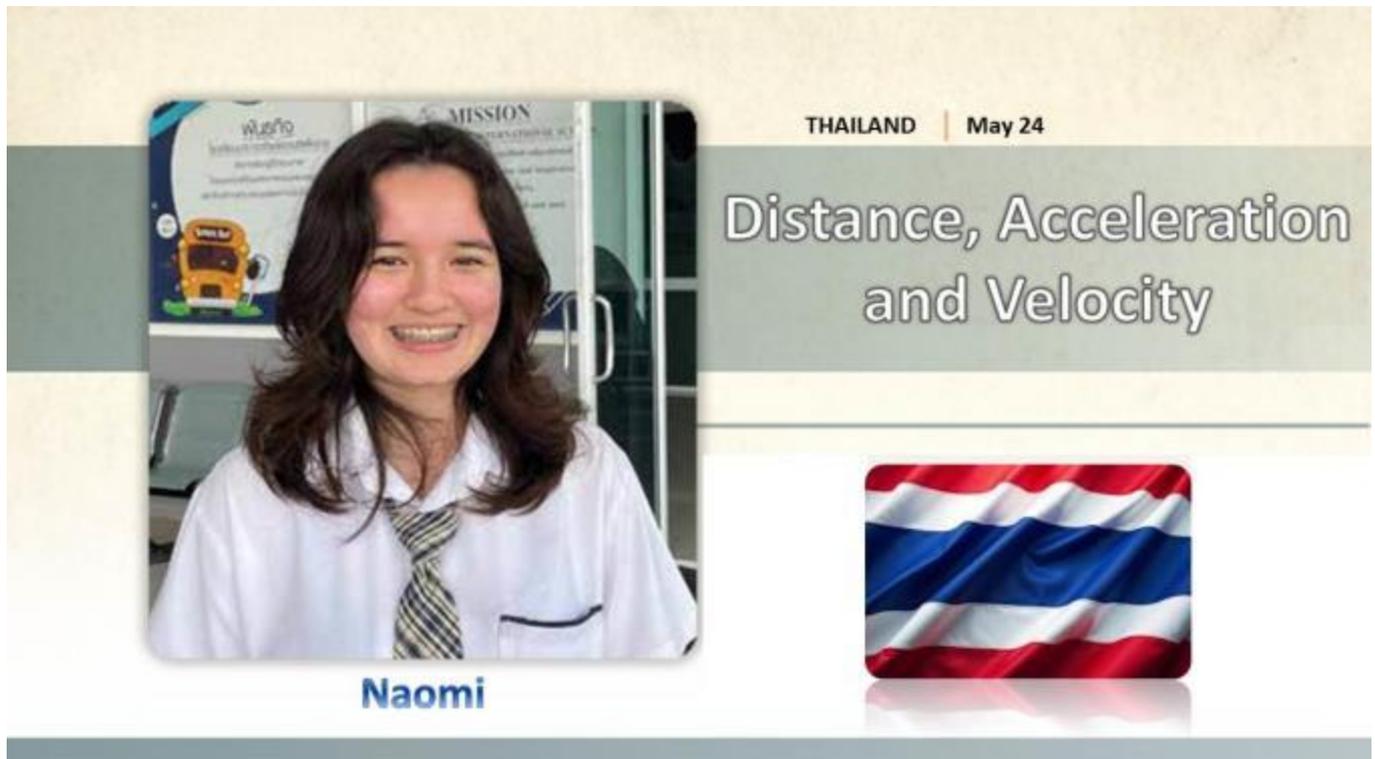
Chapter 80

Restore Us, O God

- Psa 80:1 **To the chief Musician upon Shoshannimeduth, A Psalm of Asaph.** Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that lead Joseph like a flock; thou that dwells *between* the cherubims, shine forth.
- Psa 80:2 Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh stir up thy strength, and come *and* save us.
- Psa 80:3 Turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.
- Psa 80:4 O LORD God of hosts, how long wilt thou be angry against the prayer of thy people?
- Psa 80:5 Thou feed them with the bread of tears; and give them tears to drink in great measure.
- Psa 80:6 Thou make us a strife unto our neighbours: and our enemies laugh among themselves.
- Psa 80:7 Turn us again, O God of hosts, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.
- Psa 80:8 Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt: thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it.
- Psa 80:9 Thou prepared *room* before it, and didst cause it to take deep root, and it filled the land.
- Psa 80:10 The hills were covered with the shadow of it, and the boughs thereof *were like* the goodly cedars.
- Psa 80:11 She sent out her boughs unto the sea, and her branches unto the river.
- Psa 80:12 Why hast thou *then* broken down her hedges, so that all they which pass by the way do pluck her?
- Psa 80:13 The boar out of the wood doth waste it, and the wild beast of the field doth devour it.
- Psa 80:14 Return, we beseech thee, O God of hosts: look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine;
- Psa 80:15 And the vineyard which thy right hand has planted, and the branch *that* thou made strong for thyself.
- Psa 80:16 *It is* burned with fire, *it is* cut down: they perish at the rebuke of thy countenance.
- Psa 80:17 Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand, upon the son of man *whom* thou made strong for thyself.
- Psa 80:18 So will not we go back from thee: quicken us, and we will call upon thy name.
- Psa 80:19 Turn us again, O LORD God of hosts, cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.

Children’s Mission Story

Sabbath, May 17th, 2025



Thirteen-year-old Naomi thought that she was going to fail her science test at her school in Thailand. She looked at her notes on her tablet at home. Nothing made sense. She saw words like “distance,” “acceleration,” and “velocity.” She felt worries growing inside of her. She just had to get a good grade on the test. Her future depended on it. She wanted to grow up to become a scientist. But how could she become a scientist if she failed the science test?

Naomi looked at the clock. It was late. She needed to go to bed. But the test was the next day. She looked back at her tablet. Again, she only saw confusing words like “distance,” “acceleration,” and “velocity.”

“Aghhhh!” she exclaimed in despair.

She felt desperate. What could she do? Her parents were asleep, so she couldn’t ask them for help. She couldn’t ask her friends for help because they also didn’t understand distance, acceleration, and velocity.

Then an idea popped into her mind. “Why not pray?” she thought.

Naomi had learned at school to pray in the morning and at night. Now it was night, so why not pray about her science test? Naomi closed her eyes and folded her hands. “Dear God,” she said, “please help me pass this test.”

Then she explained to God that she wanted to pass the test so she could become a scientist. When she finished talking to God, she felt better. She still was a little worried, but she was glad that she had been able to tell God about her worries. She studied a few more minutes and went to bed. She felt peaceful after praying and fell asleep quickly.

In the morning, Naomi still felt peaceful, but she also felt also a little worried. Dad reassured her that everything would be fine.

“It’s OK,” he said. “It’s just a grade, and grades don’t matter in the real world.”

But Naomi still wanted a good grade on the test.

After breakfast, she quickly reviewed her notes one last time on her tablet, and she went to school.

When it came time for the test, something seemed different. Naomi understood the meaning of words like distance, acceleration, and velocity. The test wasn’t easy, but she felt comfortable as she took it.

When she received her grade, she saw that she had passed with flying colors. She was shocked and very happy.

That night, before going to sleep, she prayed gratefully in her bed.

“Thank You for helping me get a good grade,” she said.

These days, Naomi loves to pray to God about everything. She has found that praying is much more fun than worrying.

“Don’t worry about anything but pray for everything,” she said.

Naomi is right. After all, the Bible says, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6, 7; NKJV).

Naomi studies at Korat Adventist International School in Thailand, where many children come from families who have never heard about God.

Part of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering several years ago helped build the school. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter that will help other children in Asia also learn about God.

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – May 18th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Proverbs 3:5-6; Proverbs 9:10; Psalm 119:130; Job 12:13; Zechariah 6:13; Matthew 13:35; Matthew 25:34; John 3:16; Ephesians 1:3–4; Ephesians 3:19; Ephesians 6:17; 1 Peter 1:19–20; Revelation 13:8;

1. How are we shown that God's plan for man's salvation was formed from the foundation of the world?

- **Matthew 13:35** —
- **Matthew 25:34** —
- **Ephesians 1:3–4** —
- **1 Peter 1:19–20** —
- **Revelation 13:8** —

NOTES : “Long continued was that mysterious communing, “the counsel of peace” [Zechariah 6:13] for the fallen sons of men. The plan of salvation had been laid before the creation of the earth; for Christ is “the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world” [Revelation 13:8]; yet it was a struggle, even with the King of the universe, to yield up His Son to die for the guilty race. But “God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” [John 3:16] Oh, the mystery of redemption! the love of God for a world that did not love Him! Who can know the depths of that love which “passes knowledge?” [Ephesians 3:19] Through endless ages immortal minds, seeking to comprehend the mystery of that incomprehensible love, will wonder and adore.” —*Patriarchs and Prophets, page 64*

2. What do we find when we go to God for counsel?

- **Job 12:13** —

NOTES : “There are great things expected from the sons and daughters of God... What possibilities are open before them! If they sincerely seek to learn of Christ, He will give them wisdom, as He gave wisdom to Daniel. They may obtain directions from Him who is mighty in counsel. “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.” [Proverbs 9:10] Says the psalmist, “The entrance of Thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.” [Psalm 119:130] And the wise man writes, “In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.” [Proverbs 3:5-6] Let the youth try to appreciate the privilege that may be theirs, to be directed by the unerring wisdom of God. Let them take the word of truth as the man of their counsel, and become skilful in the use of “the sword of the Spirit.” [Ephesians 6:17] Satan is a wise general; but the humble, devoted soldier of Jesus Christ may overcome him.” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, February 28th, 1888*

3. Heaven's Hotline

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Lesson Scripture

Sunday, May 18th, 2025

[Job 12:13]

↪ ¹³ With Him *is* wisdom and strength, He has counsel and understanding.

[Psalms 119:130]

↪ ¹³⁰ The entrance of Your words gives light; it giveth understanding to the simple.

[Proverbs 3:5-6]

↪ ⁵ Trust in The LORD with all your heart; and lean not to your own understanding.

⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

[Proverbs 9:10]

↪ ¹⁰ The fear of The LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy *is* understanding.

[Zechariah 6:13]

↪ ¹³ Even He shall build the temple of The LORD; and He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon His throne; and He shall be a priest upon His throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.

[Matthew 13:35]

↪ ³⁵ That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, “**I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.**”

[Matthew 25:24]

↪ ²⁴ **Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew You that You are an hard man, reaping where You have not sown, and gathering where You have not strawed:**

[John 3:16]

↪ ¹⁶ **For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

[Ephesians 3:1-4]

↪ ¹ For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,

² If you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me toward you:

³ How that by revelation He made known to me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,

⁴ Whereby, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

[Ephesians 3:19]

↪ ¹⁹ And to know the love of Christ, which passes knowledge, that you might be filled with all the fullness of God.

[Ephesians 6:17]

↪ ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of The Spirit, which is The Word of God:

[1 Peter 1:19-20]

- ↳ ¹⁹ But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:
- ↳ ²⁰ Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

[Revelation 13:8]

- ↳ ⁸ And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship Him, whose names are not written in the book of life of The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, May 18th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 145

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 18th

Sanctifying Power

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

John 17:17

The truth which we profess will be of no avail to us unless we are sanctified through it.... While error is prevailing to such an extent in our land, we want to know what is truth, because we cannot be sanctified by error. The better we understand the truth as it is in God’s Word, the better we shall know how to sanctify our lives through God’s Word.

We are in this world as probationers, and God is proving us by giving us an opportunity to obey His truth. It is a very solemn thing to live in this age of the world, and we should not be satisfied unless we have a living connection with the God of heaven, and we should have a sense of our accountability to Him every day of our lives....

There are voices that we shall hear all around us to divert us away from the truth, but if we have an eye single to the glory of God and are striving to do His will, we shall hear His voice and know it is the voice of the Good Shepherd. It is very important that we understand the voice that speaks to us....

There are temptations that will come to every one of us. We all have our different dispositions to overcome, and how are we to know that we are doing this work day by day? We must look into the mirror—God’s holy law—and there discover the defects in our characters. It is a very difficult thing for one to understand himself. We must examine closely to see if there is not something that must be laid aside, and then as we make an effort to put away self, our precious Saviour will give us the help we need that we may be overcomers....

This world is not heaven, it is the preparation place; it is the workshop of God where we are to be hewed and chiselled and fitted up for the heavenly mansions. Then do not be satisfied with a mere sense of the truth; God calls for a reformation at every step. It is to have a fitness for the mansions that Christ has gone to fit up for us. And if we can only be of the heavenly family in the kingdom of glory then we shall have the eternal reward. May God help us to overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of His testimony.

Daily Scripture

Sunday, May 18th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 81

Oh, That My People Would Listen to Me

- Psa 81:1 **To the chief Musician upon Gittith, A Psalm of Asaph.** Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob.
- Psa 81:2 Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery.
- Psa 81:3 Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.
- Psa 81:4 For this *was* a statute for Israel, *and* a law of the God of Jacob.
- Psa 81:5 This he ordained in Joseph *for* a testimony, when he went out through the land of Egypt: *where* I heard a language *that* I understood not.
- Psa 81:6 I removed his shoulder from the burden: his hands were delivered from the pots.
- Psa 81:7 Thou called in trouble, and I delivered thee; I answered thee in the secret place of thunder: I proved thee at the waters of Meribah. Selah.
- Psa 81:8 Hear, O my people, and I will testify unto thee: O Israel, if thou wilt hearken unto me;
- Psa 81:9 There shall no strange god be in thee; neither shalt thou worship any strange god.
- Psa 81:10 *I am* the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it.
- Psa 81:11 But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me.
- Psa 81:12 So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: *and* they walked in their own counsels.
- Psa 81:13 Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, *and* Israel had walked in my ways!
- Psa 81:14 I should soon have subdued their enemies, and turned my hand against their adversaries.
- Psa 81:15 The haters of the LORD should have submitted themselves unto him: but their time should have endured for ever.
- Psa 81:16 He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee.

Monday – May 19th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 1:1–6; Psalm 73:23–26;

1. How did the Psalmist express his dependence on the counsel of the Lord?

➤ **Psalm 73:23–26** —

NOTES : “The life and spirit of Christ is the only standard of excellence and perfection, and our only safe course is to follow His example. If we do this He will guide us by His counsel and afterward receive us to glory. We must strive diligently and be willing to suffer much in order to walk in the footsteps of our Redeemer. God is willing to work for us, to give us of His free Spirit, if we will strive for it, live for it, believe for it; and then we can walk in the light as He is in the light. We can feast upon His love and drink in of His rich fullness.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 1, page 408*

2. What blessings await those who do not follow the counsel of ungodly men?

➤ **Psalm 1:1–6** —

NOTES : “Infidels study the Scriptures frequently more diligently than some who profess to be guided by them. Some of the ungodly search the Scriptures that they may become familiar with Bible truth, and furnish themselves with arguments to make it appear that the Bible contradicts itself. And many professed Christians are so ignorant of the word of God, through neglect of its study, that they are blinded by the deceptive reasoning of those who pervert sacred truth, that they may turn souls away from the counsel of God in His word.” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, March 3rd, 1874*

“The ungodly are those who do not love and obey the commandments of God, but go contrary to them. This is the class of counsellors you are warned to shun... Their counsel, their suggestions, are of a character to make light of sin, to ridicule righteousness. Their manners may be pleasant, and they may have intellect, which make them all the more successful in leading others astray. They are represented as standing in the way of sinners, always leading them out of the straight path of duty and obedience to God's commandments into paths of disobedience. If it were not for those persons who do wrong and tempt others to do wrong, many sinners might have chosen the path of duty, the life of purity and godliness. When any open their minds and hearts to those who would advise them to do wrong in any way, then they are walking in the counsel of the ungodly; and in their turn they become the agents of Satan to tempt others to walk in the same path. They are standing in the way of sinners, to turn the feet of sinners into false paths, which lead to perdition; and in the next step they will find themselves sitting in the seat of the scornful unconcerned. The ministrations of Christ are unheeded, the great salvation freely offered and dearly purchased is neglected.” —*Youth's Instructor, October 20th, 1886*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Monday, May 19th, 2025

[Psalms 1:1-6]

- ↳ ¹ Blessed *is* the man that walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful.
- ² But his delight *is* in the law of The LORD; and in His law doth he meditate day and night.
- ³ And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.
- ⁴ The ungodly *are* not so: but *are* like the chaff which the wind drives away.
- ⁵ Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgement, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
- ⁶ For The LORD knows the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

[Psalms 73:23-26]

- ↳ ²³ Nevertheless I *am* continually with You: You hast holden *me* by my right hand.
- ²⁴ You shall guide me with Your counsel, and afterward receive me *to* glory.
- ²⁵ Whom have I in heaven *but You?* and *there is* none upon earth *that* I desire beside You.
- ²⁶ My flesh and my heart fails: *but* God *is* the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, May 19th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 146

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 19th

Freedom Through Christ

Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Galatians 5:1

In the beginning God placed man under law as an indispensable condition of his very existence. He was a subject of the divine government, and there can be no government without law....

God is omnipotent, omniscient, immutable. He always pursues a straightforward course. His law is truth—immutable, eternal truth. His precepts are consistent with His attributes. But Satan makes them appear in a false light. By perverting them, he seeks to give human beings an unfavourable impression of the Lawgiver. Throughout his rebellion he has sought to represent God as an unjust, tyrannical being....

As a result of Adam’s disobedience every human being is a transgressor of the law, sold under sin. Unless he repents and is converted, he is under bondage to the law, serving Satan, falling into the deceptions of the enemy, and bearing witness against the precepts of Jehovah. But by perfect obedience to the requirements of the law, man is justified. Only through faith in Christ is such obedience possible. Men may comprehend the spirituality of the law, they may realize its power as a detector of sin, but they are helpless to withstand Satan’s power and deceptions, unless they accept the atonement provided for them in the remedial sacrifice of Christ, who is our Atonement—our At-one-ment—with God.

Those who believe on Christ and obey His commandments are not under bondage to God’s law; for to those who believe and obey, His law is not a law of bondage, but of liberty. Everyone who believes on Christ, everyone who relies on the keeping power of a risen Saviour that has suffered the penalty pronounced upon the transgressor, everyone who resists temptation and in the midst of evil copies the pattern given in the Christ life, will through faith in the atoning sacrifice of Christ become a partaker of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. Everyone who by faith obeys God’s commandments will reach the condition of sinlessness in which Adam lived before his transgression.

Daily Scripture

Monday, May 19th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 82

Rescue the Weak and Needy

- Psa 82:1 **A Psalm of Asaph.** God stands in the congregation of the mighty; he judges among the gods.
Psa 82:2 How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah.
Psa 82:3 Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.
Psa 82:4 Deliver the poor and needy: rid *them* out of the hand of the wicked.
Psa 82:5 They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course.
Psa 82:6 I have said, Ye *are* gods; and all of you *are* children of the most High.
Psa 82:7 But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes.
Psa 82:8 Arise, O God, judge the earth: for thou shalt inherit all nations.

Tuesday – May 20th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 106:7–15; Psalm 107:11–15; James 1:5-6; Revelation 3:18;
{see also Psalm 106; psalm 107;}

1. What examples are we given of those who refused to follow the counsel of the Lord?

➤ **Psalm 106:7–15** —

➤ **Psalm 107:11–15** —

NOTES : “God's way is always the right and the prudent way. He always brings honour to His name. Man's only security against rash, ambitious movements is to keep the heart in harmony with Christ Jesus. Man's wisdom is untrustworthy. Man is fickle, filled with self-esteem, pride, and selfishness. Let the workers doing God's service trust wholly in the Lord. Then the leaders will reveal that they are willing to be led, not by human wisdom, which is as useless to lean upon as is a broken reed, but by the wisdom of the Lord, who has said: “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraids not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering.” [James 1:5-6] All who profess to be children of God I would invite to consider the history of the Israelites, as recorded in the one hundred and fifth, the one hundred and sixth, and the one hundred and seventh psalms. By carefully studying these scriptures, we may be able to appreciate more fully the goodness, mercy, and love of our God.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 8, page 106 - 107*

2. What specific counsel is given to Laodicea?

➤ **Revelation 3:18** —

NOTES : “I was shown that the testimony to the Laodiceans applies to God's people at the present time, and the reason it has not accomplished a greater work is because of the hardness of their hearts. But God has given the message time to do its work. The heart must be purified from sins which have so long shut out Jesus. This fearful message will do its work... I saw that this message would not accomplish its work in a few short months. It is designed to arouse the people of God, to discover to them their backslidings, and to lead to zealous repentance, that they may be favoured with the presence of Jesus, and be fitted for the loud cry of the third angel. As this message affected the heart, it led to deep humility before God.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 1, page 186*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, May 20th, 2025

[Psalms 106:7-15]

- ↪ ⁷ Our fathers understood not Your wonders in Egypt; they remembered not the multitude of Your mercies; but provoked *Him* at the sea, *even* at The Red Sea.
- ⁸ Nevertheless He saved them for His name's sake, that He might make His mighty power to be known.
- ⁹ He rebuked The Red Sea also, and it was dried up: so He led them through the depths, as through the wilderness.
- ¹⁰ And He saved them from the hand of him that hated *them*, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.
- ¹¹ And the waters covered their enemies: there was not one of them left.
- ¹² Then they believed His words; they sang His praise.
- ¹³ They soon forgot His works; they waited not for His counsel:
- ¹⁴ But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert.
- ¹⁵ And He gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.

[Psalms 107:11-15]

- ↪ ¹¹ Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High:
- ¹² Therefore he brought down their heart with labour; they fell down, and *there was* none to help.
- ¹³ Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, *and* he saved them out of their distresses.
- ¹⁴ He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and brake their bands in sunder.
- ¹⁵ Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!

[James 1:5-6]

- ↪ ⁵ If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that gives to all *men* liberally, and upbraids not; and it shall be given him.
- ⁶ But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavers is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

[Revelation 3:18]

- ↪ ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that you may be rich; and white raiment, that you may be clothed, and *that* the shame of your nakedness do not appear; and anoint your eyes with eyesalve, that you may see.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, May 20th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 147

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 20th

God’s Way, Not Mine

Shew me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.

Psalm 25:4, 5

The direction given to Moses was, “*See ... that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.*” (Hebrews 8:5). Although Moses was full of zeal to do God’s work, and he could have the most skilful, talented men to carry out any suggestions he should make, he must not make a single thing, a bell, a pomegranate, a tassel, or a fringe, or a curtain, or any vessel except according to the pattern showed to him as God’s ideal.... Forty days the communications were given to him, and when he descended to the foot of the mount he was ready to give the exact pattern that was shown to him in the mount....

Where many have erred, was in not being careful in following God’s ideas, but their own. Christ Himself declared, “*The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he sees the Father do.*” (John 5:19). So utterly was He emptied of Himself that He made no schemes and plans. He lived accepting God’s plans for Him, and the Father day by day unfolded His plans. If Jesus was so wholly dependent, and declared, “*Whatsoever I see the Father do, that I do,*” how much more should human agents depend upon God for constant instruction, so that their lives might be the simple working out of God’s plans! ...

Our own way must be overcome. Pride, self-sufficiency, must be crucified and the vacuum supplied with the Spirit and power of God.... Did Jesus Christ, the Majesty of heaven, have His way? Behold Him in travail of soul in Gethsemane, praying to His Father. What forces these blood drops of agony from His holy brow? Oh, the sins of the whole world are upon Him! It was separation from the Father’s love that forced from His pale and quivering lips the cry, “*Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me.*” (Matthew 26:39). Three times was the prayer offered, but followed by “*Nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.*” (Luke 22:42). This must be our attitude—Not my will, but Thine, O God, be done. This is true conversion.

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, May 20th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 83

O God, Do Not Keep Silence

- Psa 83:1 **A Song or Psalm of Asaph.** Keep not thou silence, O God: hold not thy peace, and be not still, O God.
- Psa 83:2 For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head.
- Psa 83:3 They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones.
- Psa 83:4 They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from *being* a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance.
- Psa 83:5 For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee:
- Psa 83:6 The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes;
- Psa 83:7 Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre;
- Psa 83:8 Assur also is joined with them: they have helped the children of Lot. Selah.
- Psa 83:9 Do unto them as *unto* the Midianites; as *to* Sisera, as *to* Jabin, at the brook of Kison:
- Psa 83:10 *Which* perished at Endor: they became *as* dung for the earth.
- Psa 83:11 Make their nobles like Oreb, and like Zeeb: yea, all their princes as Zebah, and as Zalmunna:
- Psa 83:12 Who said, Let us take to ourselves the houses of God in possession.
- Psa 83:13 O my God, make them like a wheel; as the stubble before the wind.
- Psa 83:14 As the fire burns a wood, and as the flame sets the mountains on fire;
- Psa 83:15 So persecute them with thy tempest, and make them afraid with thy storm.
- Psa 83:16 Fill their faces with shame; that they may seek thy name, O LORD.
- Psa 83:17 Let them be confounded and troubled for ever; yea, let them be put to shame, and perish:
- Psa 83:18 That *men* may know that thou, whose name alone *is* JEHOVAH, *art* the most high over all the earth.

Wednesday – May 21st

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Revelation 3:18;

1. What is the remedy offered by the Faithful and True Witness for our spiritual poverty?

➤ **Revelation 3:18, first part.** —

NOTES : “The gold mentioned by Christ, the True Witness, which all must have, has been shown me to be faith and love combined, and love takes the precedence of faith. Satan is constantly at work to remove these precious gifts from the hearts of God’s people. All are engaged in playing the game of life. Satan is well aware that if he can remove love and faith, and supply their place with selfishness and unbelief, all the remaining precious traits will soon be skilfully removed by his deceitful hand, and the game will be lost.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 2, page 36*

“Faith and love are the true riches, the pure gold which the True Witness counsels the lukewarm to buy. However rich we may be in earthly treasure, all our wealth will not enable us to buy the precious remedies that cure the disease of the soul called luke-warmness. Intellect and earthly riches were powerless to remove the defects of the Laodicean church, or to remedy their deplorable condition.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 4, page 88*

2. What does the Faithful and True Witness offer to cover our spiritual nakedness?

➤ **Revelation 3:18, middle part.** —

NOTES : “The white raiment is purity of character, the righteousness of Christ imparted to the sinner. This is indeed a garment of heavenly texture, that can be bought only of Christ for a life of willing obedience.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 4, page 88*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, May 21st, 2025

[Revelation 3:18]

☞ ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that you may be rich; and white raiment, that you may be clothed, and *that* the shame of your nakedness do not appear; and anoint your eyes with eyesalve, that you may see.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, May 21st, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 148

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 21st

The Highest Standard

For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.

Romans 2:13

In the lives of many whose names are on the church books there has been no genuine change. The truth has been kept in the outer court. There has been no genuine conversion, no positive work of grace done in the heart....

He who would build up a strong, symmetrical character must give all and do all for Christ. The Redeemer will not accept divided service. Daily he must learn the meaning of self-surrender. He must study the Word of God, getting its meaning and obeying its precepts. Thus he may reach the highest standard of Christian excellence. There is no limit to the spiritual advancement that he may make if he is a partaker of the divine nature. Day by day God works in him, perfecting the character that is to stand in the day of final test. Each day of his life he ministers to others. The light that is in him shines forth and stills the strife of tongues. Day by day he is working out before men and angels a vast, sublime experiment, showing what the gospel can do for fallen human beings.

Let us not spare ourselves, but carry forward in earnest the work of reform that must be done in our lives. Let us crucify self. Unholy habits will clamour for the mastery, but in the name and through the power of Jesus we may conquer. To him who daily seeks to keep his heart with all diligence, the promise is given, *“Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”* (Romans 8:38, 39).... God Himself is *“the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”* And *“whom he justified, them he also glorified.”* (Romans 8:30)

Great as is the shame and degradation through sin, even greater will be the honour and exaltation through redeeming love. To human beings, striving for conformity to the divine image, there is imparted an outlay of heaven’s treasure, an excellency of power that will place them higher than even the angels who have never fallen.

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, May 21st, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 84

My Soul Longs for the Courts of the Lord

- Psa 84:1 **To the chief Musician upon Gittith, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.** How amiable *are* thy tabernacles, O LORD of hosts!
- Psa 84:2 My soul longs, yea, even faints for the courts of the LORD: my heart and my flesh cries out for the living God.
- Psa 84:3 Yea, the sparrow has found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, *even* thine altars, O LORD of hosts, my King, and my God.
- Psa 84:4 Blessed *are* they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah.
- Psa 84:5 Blessed *is* the man whose strength *is* in thee; in whose heart *are* the ways *of them*.
- Psa 84:6 *Who* passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also fills the pools.
- Psa 84:7 They go from strength to strength, *every one of them* in Zion appears before God.
- Psa 84:8 O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob. Selah.
- Psa 84:9 Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed.
- Psa 84:10 For a day in thy courts *is* better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.
- Psa 84:11 For the LORD God *is* a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good *thing* will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.
- Psa 84:12 O LORD of hosts, blessed *is* the man that trusts in thee.

Thursday – May 22nd

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Proverbs 1:24–33; Revelation 3:18;

1. What cure for our spiritual blindness is offered by the Faithful and True Witness?

➤ **Revelation 3:18, last part. —**

NOTES : “They were blind, yet felt that they were well off. The Spirit of God did not illumine their minds, and they did not perceive their sinfulness; therefore they did not feel the necessity of help. To be without the graces of the Spirit of God is sad indeed; but it is a more terrible condition to be thus destitute of spirituality and of Christ, and yet try to justify ourselves by telling those who are alarmed for us that we need not their fears and pity. Fearful is the power of self-deception on the human mind! What blindness! Setting light for darkness and darkness for light! The eyesalve is that wisdom and grace which enables us to discern between the evil and the good, and to detect sin under any guise. God has given His church eyes which He requires them to anoint with wisdom, that they may see clearly; but many would put out the eyes of the church if they could; for they would not have their deeds come to the light, lest they should be reproofed. The divine eyesalve will impart clearness to the understanding. Christ is the depository of all graces. He says: “*Buy of Me.*” [Revelation 3:18]”—*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 4, page 88*

2. What solemn warning is given to those who fail to heed the counsel and reproof of the Lord?

➤ **Proverbs 1:24–33 —**

NOTES : “What shall I say to arouse the remnant people of God? I was shown that dreadful scenes are before us; Satan and his angels are bringing all their powers to bear upon God's people. He knows that if they sleep a little longer he is sure of them, for their destruction is certain. I warn all who profess the name of Christ to closely examine themselves and make full and thorough confession of all their wrongs, that they may go beforehand to judgement, and that the recording angel may write 'pardon' opposite their names. My brother, my sister, if these precious moments of mercy are not improved, you will be left without excuse. If you make no special effort to arouse, if you will not manifest zeal in repenting, these golden moments will soon pass, and you will be weighed in the balance and found wanting. Then your agonising cries will be of no avail. Then will apply the words of the Lord: “Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out My hand, and no man regarded; but ye have set at nought all My counsel, and would none of My reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; when your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon Me, but I will not answer; they shall seek Me early, but they shall not find Me: for that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord: they would none of My counsel: they despised all My reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. But whoso hearkens unto Me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.” [Proverbs 1:24-33]”—*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 1, page 263*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Thursday, May 22nd, 2025

[Proverbs 1:24-33]

- ↪ ²⁴ Because I have called, and you refused; I have stretched out My hand, and no man regarded;
²⁵ But you have set at nought all My counsel, and would none of My reproof:
²⁶ I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear comes;
²⁷ When your fear comes as desolation, and your destruction comes as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish comes upon you.
²⁸ Then shall they call upon Me, but I will not answer; they shall seek Me early, but they shall not find Me:
²⁹ For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of The LORD:
³⁰ They would none of My counsel: they despised all My reproof.
³¹ Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.
³² For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.
³³ But whoso hearkens to Me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

[Revelation 3:18]

- ↪ ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that you may be rich; and white raiment, that you may be clothed, and *that* the shame of your nakedness do not appear; and anoint your eyes with eyesalve, that you may see.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, May 22nd, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 149

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 22nd

Loyal to God or to Men?

We ought to obey God rather than men.

Acts 5:29

Daniel and his companions had a conscience void of offense toward God. But this is not preserved without a struggle. What a test was brought on the three associates of Daniel when they were required to worship the great image set up by the King Nebuchadnezzar in the plains of Dura! Their principles forbade them to pay homage to the idol, for it was a rival to the God of heaven. They knew that they owed to God every faculty they possessed, and while their hearts were full of generous sympathy toward all men, they had a lofty aspiration to prove themselves entirely loyal to their God....

The king declared to the three Hebrew youth, if “*ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?*” The youth said to the king, “*O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up....*” (Daniel 3:15-19).... Those faithful youth were cast into the fire, but God manifested His power for the deliverance of His servants. One like unto the Son of God walked with them in the midst of the flame, and when they were brought forth, not even the smell of fire had passed on them....

Thus these youth, imbued with the Holy Spirit, declared to the whole nation their faith, that He whom they worshiped was the only true and living God. This demonstration of their own faith was the most eloquent presentation of their principles. In order to impress idolaters with the power and greatness of the living God, His servants must reveal their own reverence for God. They must make it manifest that He is the only object of their honour and worship, and that no consideration, not even the preservation of life itself, can induce them to make the least concession to idolatry. These lessons have a direct and vital bearing upon our experience in these last days.

Daily Scripture

Thursday, May 22nd, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 85

Revive Us Again

- Psa 85:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.** LORD, thou hast been favourable unto thy land: thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob.
- Psa 85:2 Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin. Selah.
- Psa 85:3 Thou hast taken away all thy wrath: thou hast turned *thyself* from the fierceness of thine anger.
- Psa 85:4 Turn us, O God of our salvation, and cause thine anger toward us to cease.
- Psa 85:5 Wilt thou be angry with us for ever? wilt thou draw out thine anger to all generations?
- Psa 85:6 Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?
- Psa 85:7 Shew us thy mercy, O LORD, and grant us thy salvation.
- Psa 85:8 I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.
- Psa 85:9 Surely his salvation *is* nigh them that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land.
- Psa 85:10 Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed *each other*.
- Psa 85:11 Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- Psa 85:12 Yea, the LORD shall give *that which is* good; and our land shall yield her increase.
- Psa 85:13 Righteousness shall go before him; and shall set *us* in the way of his steps.

Preparation Day – May 23rd

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 16:1–11, Psalm 33:11-12; Isaiah 26:4; 1 Timothy 6:15;

1. By contrast, what precious assurance is given to those who follow the Lord's counsel?

➤ **Psalm 16:1–11** —

➤ **Psalm 33:11-12** —

NOTES : “Let us not grieve the Spirit of God any more. Let us not show distrust of His word; for He alone is to be depended on. He is “the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords.” [1 Timothy 6:15] He has a mighty arm; strong is His hand, and high is His right hand. He is a mighty God, who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all we ask or think. He is wonderful in counsel, the only wise God. If He is for us, who can be against us? “Trust ye in the Lord forever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.” [Isaiah 26:4]” —*Youth's Instructor, February 15th, 1900*

2. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, May 23rd, 2025

[Psalms 16:1-11]

- ☞ ¹ **Michtam of David.** Preserve me, O God: for in You do I put my trust.
² *O my soul*, you have said to The LORD, You *are* my Lord: my goodness *extends* not to you;
³ *But* to the saints that *are* in the earth, and *to* the excellent, in whom *is* all My delight.
⁴ Their sorrows shall be multiplied *that* hasten *after* another *god*: their drink offerings of blood will I not offer, nor take up their names into my lips.
⁵ The LORD *is* the portion of my inheritance and of my cup: you maintain my lot.
⁶ The lines are fallen to me in pleasant *places*; yes, I have a goodly heritage.
⁷ I will bless The LORD, who has given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons.
⁸ I have set The LORD always before me: because *He is* at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices: my flesh also shall rest in hope.
¹⁰ For You will not leave my soul in hell; neither will You suffer Your Holy One to see corruption.
¹¹ You wilt show me the path of life: in Your presence *is* fullness of joy; at Your right hand *there are* pleasures for evermore.

[Psalms 33:11-12]

- ☞ ¹¹ The counsel of The LORD stands for ever, the thoughts of His heart to all generations.
¹² Blessed *is* the nation whose God *is* The LORD; *and* the people *whom* He hath chosen for His own inheritance.

[Isaiah 26:4]

- ☞ ⁴ Trust you in The LORD for ever: for in The LORD JEHOVAH *is* everlasting strength:

[1 Timothy 6:15]

- ☞ ¹⁵ Which in His times He shall show, *who is* the blessed and only Potentate, The King of kings, and Lord of lords;

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, May 23rd, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 150

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 23rd

God’s Test of Loyalty

The Lord has avouched thee this day to be his peculiar people, as he has promised thee, and that thou should keep all his commandments.

Deuteronomy 26:18

God has a test for us, and if we come up to the standard we shall be a peculiar people. The Sabbath draws a separating line between us and the world, not faintly but in plain, distinct colours. To those who have received the light of this truth the Sabbath is a test; it is not a human requirement, but God’s test. It is what will distinguish between those who serve God and those who serve Him not, and upon this point will come the last great conflict between truth and error. All who profess to keep God’s law should stand united in the sacred observance of His holy Sabbath....

When the destroying angel was about to pass through the land of Egypt and smite the first-born of both man and beast, the Israelites were directed to bring their children into the house with them and to strike the doorpost with blood; and none were to go out of the house, for all that were found among the Egyptians would be destroyed with them.

We should take this lesson to ourselves. Again the destroying angel is to pass through the land. There is to be a mark placed upon God’s people, and that mark is the keeping of His holy Sabbath. We are not to follow our own will and judgment and flatter ourselves that God will come to our terms.... That which looks unimportant to you may be of the highest consequence in God’s special plans for the preservation of your life or the salvation of your soul. God tests our faith by giving us some part to act in connection with His interposition in our behalf. To those who comply with the conditions His promise will be fulfilled....

We are faithfully to teach our children God’s commandments; we should bring them into subjection to parental authority; and then by faith and prayer to commit them to God, and He will work with our efforts, for He has promised it. And when the overflowing scourge shall pass through the land, they, with us, may be hidden in the secret of the Lord’s pavilion.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, May 23rd, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 86

Great Is Your Steadfast Love

- Psa 86:1 **A Prayer of David.** Bow down thine ear, O LORD, hear me: for I *am* poor and needy.
- Psa 86:2 Preserve my soul; for I *am* holy: O thou my God, save thy servant that trusts in thee.
- Psa 86:3 Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto thee daily.
- Psa 86:4 Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
- Psa 86:5 For thou, Lord, *art* good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.
- Psa 86:6 Give ear, O LORD, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications.
- Psa 86:7 In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me.
- Psa 86:8 Among the gods *there is* none like unto thee, O Lord; neither *are there any works* like unto thy works.
- Psa 86:9 All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name.
- Psa 86:10 For thou *art* great, and does wondrous things: thou *art* God alone.
- Psa 86:11 Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.
- Psa 86:12 I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore.
- Psa 86:13 For great *is* thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.
- Psa 86:14 O God, the proud are risen against me, and the assemblies of violent *men* have sought after my soul; and have not set thee before them.
- Psa 86:15 But thou, O Lord, *art* a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.
- Psa 86:16 O turn unto me, and have mercy upon me; give thy strength unto thy servant, and save the son of thine handmaid.
- Psa 86:17 Shew me a token for good; that they which hate me may see *it*, and be ashamed: because thou, LORD, has helped me, and comforted me.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, May 23rd, 2025



Shortly after James moved into his rented house, a next-door couple informed him that it was haunted.

“There are spirits living in your house,” said the husband.

“We have heard them many times at night, and we can’t sleep,” added the wife.

The couple spoke about hearing unusual voices, mysterious footsteps, and strange objects being dropped on the floor at night.

James felt funny when he heard the reports about spirits. No-one had lived in the house for quite some time, but he wasn’t worried. He was a student missionary and didn’t fear haunted houses or restless spirits. He had read in the Bible that the dead are sleeping in the ground until Jesus wakes them up, and he was sure God would protect him from any unexplainable noises.

James thanked the couple for coming over.

“I haven’t experienced anything like that,” he said.

James and a fellow student missionary had moved into the small wooden house for their one year of service on a remote island in the Philippines. The house was painted light gray, and it had a green roof. James slept in the bedroom, and the other missionary slept in the living room. The kitchen and bathroom were outside. No-one in the community, including

James and his friend, had electricity or running water. To charge their cell phones, they paid 10 pesos (about 17 U.S. cents) to hook them up to a generator at night. The town’s mayor lived on the same street.

The island was mostly populated by non-Christians. But Christians lived on the island as well, and James’ mission assignment was to reach out to former Adventists. He was to meet them and to seek to renew their faith.

The next-door couple who spoke about spooky spirits belonged to another Christian denomination. Even though they weren't Adventist and therefore part of the assignment, James and his friend tried to reach out to them by offering Bible studies.

But the couple refused. They wouldn't even accept a religious booklet.

So, James and his friend decided to share their daily devotions with the neighbors. They reasoned that if the walls of their house were so thin that the neighbors could hear strange noises at night, then the neighbors surely could hear their morning and evening devotions. The neighbors' house also had thin walls, so the two missionaries could hear when the couple were awake. They timed their devotions accordingly. When they sang, they sang with all their hearts. When they read the Bible, they spoke loudly enough to be heard by a crowd.

James prayed for the couple's salvation.

As the months passed, James didn't notice anything unusual about his rented house. He didn't sense any strange presence when he was alone. He didn't hear any strange noises. The only sounds at night came from crickets, frogs, and

other nocturnal creatures of God.

James and his friend spent the year praying with and encouraging former Adventists. They rejoiced to see the small community grow in its faith.

Baptisms were not part of the mission assignment but, as James and his friend wrapped up their stay, two young people asked to be baptized. James was stunned. Both young people came from non-Adventist homes, and he thanked God for touching their hearts.

As for the next-door couple, James couldn't tell if the loud singing and Bible discussions had had any impact. But as he prepared to leave, the couple begged him to stay.

“We have been able to sleep peacefully at night after you guys moved in,” the husband said.

“Please stay,” the wife said.

At that moment, James realized that God really was working on their hearts.

Pray for the precious people of the Philippines, and especially unreached people groups in remote areas. Pray also for the missionaries who are trying to reach them with life-saving truth. James went to the island as part of the 1000 Missionary Movement, an organization that is part of the Southern Asia-Pacific Division, the recipient of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. The 1000 Missionary Movement seeks to train and send 1,000 missionaries across the division every year.

The 1000 Missionary Movement center where James was trained to be a missionary was constructed near the Philippine capital, Manila, with the assistance of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering in 1996. Thank you for planning a generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering for the Southern Asia-Pacific Division on June 28.

By Andrew McChesney

LESSON 9

“BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD”

May 24 — May 30

MEMORY VERSE : *“For The Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them to living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”*
[Revelation 7:17]

STUDY HELP : ✓ Testimonies for the Church, Volume 2, pages 200 - 215

INTRODUCTION : “When men and women can more fully comprehend the magnitude of the great sacrifice which was made by the Majesty of heaven in dying in man's stead, then will the plan of salvation be magnified, and reflections of Calvary will awaken tender, sacred, and lively emotions in the Christian's heart. Praises to God and the Lamb will be in their hearts and upon their lips. Pride and self-esteem cannot flourish in the hearts that keep fresh in memory the scenes of Calvary. This world will appear of but little value to those who appreciate the great price of man's redemption, the precious blood of God's dear Son. All the riches of the world are not of sufficient value to redeem one perishing soul. Who can measure the love Christ felt for a lost world as He hung upon the cross, suffering for the sins of guilty men? This love was immeasurable, infinite.”
—*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 2, page 212*

Sabbath – May 24th

LESSON SCRIPTURE : Micah 7:18–19;

1. How does the prophet Micah picture the character of God?

➤ Micah 7:18–19 —

NOTE : “Those who are so gloomy and desponding, gathering clouds of darkness about them, would find Strength and encouragement if they would spend one hour of each day in searching the Scriptures for these precious promises, gathering and treasuring them like precious pearls. Let them dwell especially upon the mercy of God and His willingness to forgive sins. Many who have all their lives walked under a cloud, would be filled with amazement as they view the channels overflowing with mercies instead of dark clouds heavy with wrath and denunciations.”—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, September 21st, 1886*

2. Heaven's Hotline:

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, May 24th, 2025

[Micah 7:18-19]

↳ ¹⁸ Who *is* a God like unto You, that pardons iniquity, and passes by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retains not His anger for ever, because He delights *in* mercy.

¹⁹ He will turn again, He will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities; and You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

E. G. W. Study Help

Sabbath, May 24th, 2025

Testimonies for the Church Volume 2, Chapter 29, p. 200-215

“The Sufferings of Christ”

Christ felt much as sinners will feel when the vials of God's wrath shall be poured out upon them. Black despair, like the pall of death, will gather about their guilty souls, and then they will realize to the fullest extent the sinfulness of sin. Salvation has been purchased for them by the suffering and death of the Son of God. It might be theirs, if they would accept of it willingly, gladly; but none are compelled to yield obedience to the law of God. If they refuse the heavenly benefit and choose the pleasures and deceitfulness of sin, they have their choice, and at the end receive their wages, which is the wrath of God and eternal death. They will be forever separated from the presence of Jesus, whose sacrifice they had despised. They will have lost a life of happiness and sacrificed eternal glory for the pleasures of sin for a season.

Faith and hope trembled in the expiring agonies of Christ because God had removed the assurance He had heretofore given His beloved Son of His approbation and acceptance. The Redeemer of the world then relied upon the evidences which had hitherto strengthened Him, that His Father accepted His labours and was pleased with His work. In His dying agony, as He yields up His precious life, He has by faith alone to trust in Him whom it has ever been His joy to obey. He is not cheered with clear, bright rays of hope on the right hand nor on the left. All is enshrouded in oppressive gloom. Amid the awful darkness which is felt by sympathizing nature, the Redeemer drains the mysterious cup even to its dregs. Denied even bright hope and confidence in the triumph which will be His in the future, He cries with a loud voice: "Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit." He is acquainted with the character of His Father, with His justice, His mercy, and His great love, and in submission He drops into His hands. Amid the convulsions of nature are heard by the amazed spectators the dying words of the Man of Calvary.

Nature sympathized with the suffering of its Author. The heaving earth, the rent rocks, proclaimed that it was the Son of God who died. There was a mighty earthquake. The veil of the temple was rent in twain. Terror seized the executioners and spectators as they beheld the sun veiled in darkness, and felt the earth shake beneath them, and saw and heard the rending of the rocks. The mocking and jeering of the chief priests and elders were hushed as Christ commended His spirit into the hands of His Father. The astonished throng began to withdraw and grope their way in the darkness to the city. They smote upon their breasts as they went and in terror, speaking scarcely above a whisper, said among themselves: "It is an innocent person that has been murdered. What if, indeed, He is, as He asserted, the Son of God?"

Jesus did not yield up His life till He had accomplished the work which He came to do, and exclaimed with His departing breath: "It is finished." Satan was then defeated. He knew that his kingdom was lost. Angels rejoiced as the words were uttered: "It is finished." The great plan of redemption, which was dependent on the death of Christ, had been thus far carried out. And there was joy in heaven that the sons of Adam could, through a life of obedience, be finally exalted to the throne of God. Oh, what love! What amazing love! that brought the Son of God to earth to be made sin for us, that we might be reconciled to God, and elevated to a life with Him in His mansions in glory. Oh, what is man, that such a price should be paid for his redemption!

When men and women can more fully comprehend the magnitude of the great sacrifice which was made by the Majesty of heaven in dying in man's stead, then will the plan of salvation be magnified, and reflections of Calvary will awaken tender, sacred, and lively emotions in the Christian's heart. Praises to God and the Lamb will be in their hearts and upon their lips. Pride and self-esteem cannot flourish in the hearts that keep fresh in memory the scenes of Calvary. This world will appear of but little value to those who appreciate the great price of man's redemption, the precious blood of God's dear Son. All the riches of the world are not of sufficient value to redeem one perishing soul. Who can measure the love Christ felt for a lost world as He hung upon the cross, suffering for the sins of guilty men? This love was immeasurable, infinite.

Christ has shown that His love was stronger than death. He was accomplishing man's salvation; and although He had the most fearful conflict with the powers of darkness, yet, amid it all, His love grew stronger and stronger. He endured the hiding of His Father's countenance, until He was led to exclaim in the bitterness of His soul: "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" His arm brought salvation. The price was paid to purchase the redemption of man, when, in the last soul struggle, the blessed words were uttered which seemed to resound through creation: "It is finished."

Many who profess to be Christians become excited over worldly enterprises, and their interest is awakened for new and exciting amusements, while they are cold-hearted, and appear as if frozen, in the cause of God. Here is a theme, poor formalist, which is of sufficient importance to excite you. Eternal interests are here involved. Upon this theme it is sin to be calm and unimpassioned. The scenes of Calvary call for the deepest emotion. Upon this subject you will be excusable if you manifest enthusiasm. That Christ, so excellent, so innocent, should suffer such a painful death, bearing the weight of the sins of the world, our thoughts and imaginations can never fully comprehend. The length, the breadth, the height, the depth, of such amazing love we cannot fathom. The contemplation of the matchless depths of a Saviour's love should fill the mind, touch and melt the soul, refine and elevate the affections, and completely transform the whole character. The language of the apostle is: "I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified." We also may look toward Calvary and exclaim: "God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."

Considering at what an immense cost our salvation has been purchased, what will be the fate of those who neglect so great salvation? What will be the punishment of those who profess to be followers of Christ, yet fail to bow in humble obedience to the claims of their Redeemer, and who do not take the cross as humble disciples of Christ and follow Him from the manger to Calvary? "He that gathers not with Me," says Christ, "scatters abroad."

Some have limited views of the atonement. They think that Christ suffered only a small portion of the penalty of the law of God; they suppose that, while the wrath of God was felt by His dear Son, he had, through all His painful sufferings, the evidence of His Father's love and acceptance; that the portals of the tomb before Him were illuminated with bright hope, and that He had the abiding evidence of His future glory. Here is a great mistake. Christ's keenest anguish was a sense of His Father's displeasure. His mental agony because of this was of such intensity that man can have but faint conception of it.

With many the story of the condescension, humiliation, and sacrifice of our divine Lord awakens no deeper interest, and stirs the soul and affects the life no more, than does the history of the death of the martyrs of Jesus. Many have suffered death by slow tortures; others have suffered death by crucifixion. In what does the death of God's dear Son differ from these? It is true He died upon the cross a most cruel death; yet others, for His dear sake, have suffered equally, so far as bodily torture is concerned. Why, then, was the suffering of Christ more dreadful than that of other persons who have yielded their lives for His sake? If the sufferings of Christ consisted in physical pain alone, then His death was no more painful than that of some of the martyrs.

But bodily pain was but a small part of the agony of God's dear Son. The sins of the world were upon Him, also the sense of His Father's wrath as He suffered the penalty of the law transgressed. It was these that crushed His divine soul. It was the hiding of His Father's face--a sense that His own dear Father had forsaken Him--which brought despair. The separation that sin makes between God and man was fully realized and keenly felt by the innocent, suffering Man of Calvary. He was oppressed by the powers of darkness. He had not one ray of light to brighten the future. And He was struggling with the power of Satan, who was declaring that he had Christ in his power, that he was superior in strength to the Son of God, that the Father had disowned His Son, and that He was no longer in the favour of God any more than himself. If He was indeed still in favour with God, why need He die? God could save Him from death.

Christ yielded not in the least degree to the torturing foe, even in His bitterest anguish. Legions of evil angels were all about the Son of God, yet the holy angels were bidden not to break their ranks and engage in conflict with the taunting, reviling foe. Heavenly angels were not permitted to minister unto the anguished spirit of the Son of God. It was in this terrible hour of darkness, the face of His Father hidden, legions of evil angels enshrouding Him, the sins of the world upon Him, that the words were wrenched from His lips: "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?"

The death of the martyrs can bear no comparison with the agony endured by the Son of God. We should take broader and deeper views of the life, sufferings, and death of God's dear Son. When the atonement is viewed correctly, the salvation of souls will be felt to be of infinite value. In comparison with the enterprise of everlasting life, every other sinks into insignificance. But how have the counsels of this loving Saviour been despised! The heart has been devoted to the world, and selfish interests have closed the door against the Son of God. Hollow hypocrisy and pride, selfishness and gain, envy, malice, and passion, have so filled the hearts of many that Christ can have no room.

He was eternally rich, yet for our sakes He became poor, that we through His poverty might be made rich. He was clothed with light and glory, and was surrounded with hosts of heavenly angels waiting to execute His commands. Yet He put on our nature and came to sojourn among sinful mortals. Here is love that no language can express. It passes knowledge. Great is the mystery of godliness. Our souls should be enlivened, elevated, and enraptured with the theme of the love of the Father and the Son to man. The followers of Christ should here learn to reflect in some degree that mysterious love preparatory to joining all the redeemed in ascribing "blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, . . . unto Him that sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever."

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, May 24th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 151

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 24th

“Remember the Sabbath Day,”

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Exodus 20:8-11

The fourth commandment is explicit. We are not to do our own work upon the Sabbath. God has given man six days for labour, but He has reserved the seventh to Himself, and He has pronounced a blessing upon those who keep it holy. On the sixth day all needful preparation for the Sabbath is to be made.... All purchases should be made and all our cooking should be done on Friday. Let baths be taken, shoes be blacked, and clothing be put in readiness. The sick require care upon the Sabbath, and whatever it may be necessary to do for their comfort is an act of mercy, and not a violation of the commandment.... But nothing of our own work should be permitted to encroach upon holy time.

Sunday is generally made a day of feasting and pleasure seeking, but the Lord would have His people give the world a higher, holier example. Upon the Sabbath there should be a solemn dedication of the family to God.... Let all unite to honour God upon His holy day....

If you go forward toward heaven, the world will rub hard against you.... Earthly authorities will interpose. You will meet tribulations, bruising of the spirit, hard speeches, ridicule, persecutions. Men will require your conformity to laws and customs that would render you disloyal to God. Here is where God’s people find the cross in the way to life. But if the Sabbath of the fourth commandment is sacred, if it is indeed, as brought to view in the third angel’s message, the sign between God and His people, we must be careful in every word and in every act to show God honour....

The strong force of the downward current will sweep you off your feet unless you are united to Christ as the limpet to the rock.

Daily Scripture

Sabbath, May 24th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 87

Glorious Things of You Are Spoken

- Psa 87:1 **A Psalm or Song for the sons of Korah.** His foundation *is* in the holy mountains.
- Psa 87:2 The LORD loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
- Psa 87:3 Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah.
- Psa 87:4 I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this *man* was born there.
- Psa 87:5 And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her.
- Psa 87:6 The LORD shall count, when he writes up the people, *that* this *man* was born there. Selah.
- Psa 87:7 As well the singers as the players on instruments *shall be there*: all my springs *are* in thee.

Children’s Mission Story

Sabbath, May 24th, 2025



When Mafuang [MAF-lang] was 4, she was given an animal cookie. Grandma had bought the cookie at a mall in Thailand, and she gave it to Mom to give to Mafuang.

The little girl happily ate the cookie. It tasted so sweet and good!

But then something scary happened. Her eyes got red and puffy, and she couldn’t breathe.

Mom was very scared, and she rushed Mafuang to the hospital.

The doctor said Mafuang was allergic to wheat gluten. That meant she couldn’t eat any more animal cookies. It also meant that she couldn’t eat anything made with flour.

That was hard for the little girl. But her health depended on it. Before she ate anything, she had to check first to see if it contained flour.

So, after that, when Mafuang wanted a hamburger at a fast-food restaurant, she only ate the patty and the cheese. She couldn’t eat the bun, and she put it in the trash. When she ordered a pizza, she only ate the cheese and other toppings. She couldn’t eat the crust, and she put the crust in the trash. At birthday parties, she ate the frosting off the birthday cake and put the rest in the trash. Once she licked the frosting off a doughnut and asked her friends, “Does anyone want a doughnut?” No one did, so she put it in the trash.

One day, when Mafuang was 9, she decided to play a prank. She was sitting at the table for supper with Grandma and Grandpa in the dining room of their house in the city of Korat. Mom was in the kitchen, and Dad wasn’t home. On the table was a meal of rice, fried eggs, and thin, stuffed pancakes. Mafuang knew that her supper was only the rice and fried eggs. She needed to stay away from the pancakes because they contained flour. But she wanted to see what Grandma and Grandpa would do if she ate a pancake. So, she grabbed a pancake with her hand and bit off part of it.

Grandma and Grandpa were shocked.

“What are you doing?” Grandma cried.

“Don’t swallow it!” Grandpa exclaimed.

At that moment, as Mafuang grabbed and ate part of the pancake, Mom came out of the kitchen. She looked on with horror at what was happening.

Mafuang thought that her prank was funny. But she didn’t have a plan on what to do next. Suddenly, a strong desire overcame her to spit out the pancake. She had never felt that way before. She felt like the pancake was a disgusting piece of garbage in her mouth, and she wanted to put it in the trash.

Mafuang jumped out of her chair. She ran across the room to a trash bin in the corner. Standing over it, she spit the pancake out of her mouth.

Mom, Grandma, and Grandpa heaved a sigh of relief. They were so glad that she had spit it out.

“Never do that again because you could get really sick,” Mom said.

Mafuang didn’t say anything. She didn’t know what to say.

But she thought a lot about the unusual desire that had overcome her to spit out the pancake like a piece of garbage. She pondered it for a long time. She wondered, “What happened? Who gave me the desire to spit out the pancake?”

Then she remembered her school, where she was studying in the fourth grade. She had learned at the Seventh-day Adventist mission school about the God of heaven who created all people and cares for them. She had learned at the school to pray to God in the morning and in the evening. Mafuang had her answer. The God of heaven who created her and cared for her had filled her with the strong desire to spit out the pancake. God had saved her life.

“I know that it must be from God,” Mafuang said. “If I had swallowed the pancake, I might have been sent to the hospital. I think God is nice because He helps anyone who needs anything.”

Mafuang studies at Korat Adventist International School in Thailand, where many children, like her, come from families who do not know God.

Part of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering several years ago helped build her school. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter that will help other children in Asia also learn about God.

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – May 25th

📖 **LESSON SCRIPTURE** : Isaiah 59:2; Isaiah 64:6–7; John 3:16–18; 1 John 4:9–10;

1. How did God demonstrate His love for sinners?

➤ **1 John 4:9–10** —

➤ **John 3:16–17** —

NOTES : “God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that through Him it might be saved. My love for you has been more self-denying than a mother's love. It was that I might blot out your dark record of iniquity, and put the cup of salvation to your lips, that I suffered the death of the cross, bearing the weight and curse of your guilt. The pangs of death, and the horrors of the darkness of the tomb, I endured, that I might conquer him who had the power of death, unbar the prison house, and open for you the gates of life. I submitted to shame and agony because I loved you with an infinite love, and would bring back my wayward, wandering sheep to the paradise of God, to the tree of life.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 4, page 387*

2. What is it that has come between God and man?

➤ **Isaiah 59:2** —

➤ **Isaiah 64:6–7** —

NOTES : “When we sin against God, there is a disposition to fall behind Jesus a day's journey; we seek to separate from His company because it is distasteful, for every ray of light from His divine presence points to the sin of which we have been guilty.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 2, page 106*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sunday, May 25th, 2025

[Isaiah 59:2]

↳ ² But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *His* face from you, that He will not hear.

[Isaiah 64:6-7]

↳ ⁶ But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

⁷ And *there is* none that calls upon Your name, that stirs up himself to take hold of You: for You have hid Your face from us, and have consumed us, because of our iniquities.

[John 3:16-18]

↳ ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

¹⁷ For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.

¹⁸ He that believes on Him is not condemned: but He that believes not is condemned already, because He has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

[1 John 4:9-10]

↳ ⁹ In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

¹⁰ Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, May 25th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 152

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 25th

Day of Delight and Blessing

If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father.

Isaiah 58:13, 14

The Sabbath ... is God’s time, not ours; when we trespass upon it we are stealing from God... God has given us the whole of six days in which to do our work, and has reserved only one to Himself. This should be a day of blessing to us—a day when we should lay aside all our secular matters and centre our thoughts upon God and heaven.

But while we worship God, we are not to consider this a drudgery. The Sabbath of the Lord is to be made a blessing to us and to our children. They are to look upon the Sabbath as a day of delight, a day which God has sanctified; and they will so consider it if they are properly instructed... They can be pointed to the blooming flowers and the opening buds, the lofty trees and beautiful spires of grass, and taught that God made all these in six days and rested on the seventh day and hallowed it. Thus the parents may bind up their lessons of instruction to their children so that when these children look upon the things of nature they will call to mind the great Creator of them all...

We are not to teach our children that they must not be happy on the Sabbath, that it is wrong to walk out of doors. Oh, no. Christ led His disciples out by the lakeside on the Sabbath day and taught them. His sermons on the Sabbath were not always preached within enclosed walls...

Many say they would keep the Sabbath if it were convenient to do so. But this day is not yours; it is God’s day, and you have no more right to take it than you have to steal my purse. God has reserved it, sanctified and blessed it; and it is your duty to devote this time to His service, to make it honourable, to call it a delight.

Daily Scripture

Sunday, May 25th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 88

I Cry Out Day and Night Before You

- Psa 88:1 **A Song or Psalm for the sons of Korah, to the chief Musician upon Mahalath Leannoth, Maschil of Heman the Ezrahite.** O LORD God of my salvation, I have cried day *and* night before thee:
- Psa 88:2 Let my prayer come before thee: incline thine ear unto my cry;
- Psa 88:3 For my soul is full of troubles: and my life draws nigh unto the grave.
- Psa 88:4 I am counted with them that go down into the pit: I am as a man *that has* no strength:
- Psa 88:5 Free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, whom thou remember no more: and they are cut off from thy hand.
- Psa 88:6 Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps.
- Psa 88:7 Thy wrath lies hard upon me, and thou hast afflicted *me* with all thy waves. Selah.
- Psa 88:8 Thou hast put away mine acquaintance far from me; thou hast made me an abomination unto them: *I am* shut up, and I cannot come forth.
- Psa 88:9 Mine eye mourns by reason of affliction: LORD, I have called daily upon thee, I have stretched out my hands unto thee.
- Psa 88:10 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise *and* praise thee? Selah.
- Psa 88:11 Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the grave? *or* thy faithfulness in destruction?
- Psa 88:12 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?
- Psa 88:13 But unto thee have I cried, O LORD; and in the morning shall my prayer prevent thee.
- Psa 88:14 LORD, why cast thou off my soul? *why* hide thou thy face from me?
- Psa 88:15 *I am* afflicted and ready to die from *my* youth up: *while* I suffer thy terrors I am distracted.
- Psa 88:16 Thy fierce wrath goes over me; thy terrors have cut me off.
- Psa 88:17 They came round about me daily like water; they compassed me about together.
- Psa 88:18 Lover and friend hast thou put far from me, *and* mine acquaintance into darkness.

Monday – May 26th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Isaiah 53:4–8, Isaiah 53:11; John 3:16; Ephesians 2:13–16;

1. What did God do to reconcile us with Himself?

➤ **Ephesians 2:13–16** —

NOTES : “By His life and His death, Christ has achieved even more than recovery from the ruin wrought through sin. It was Satan's purpose to bring about an eternal separation between God and man; but in Christ, we become more closely united to God than if we had never fallen. In taking our nature, the Saviour has bound Himself to humanity by a tie that is never to be broken. Through the eternal ages, He is linked with us. “God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son.” [John 3:16] He gave Him not only to bear our sins, and to die as our sacrifice; He gave Him to the fallen race. To assure us of His immutable counsel of peace, God gave His only-begotten Son to become one of the human family, forever to retain His human nature.” —*The Desire of Ages, page 25*

2. How did Isaiah describe this work of reconciliation?

➤ **Isaiah 53:4–8** —

➤ **Isaiah 53:11** —

NOTES : “Christ was treated as we deserve, that we might be treated as He deserves. He was condemned for our sins, in which He had no share, that we might be justified by His righteousness, in which we had no share. He suffered the death which was ours, that we might receive the life which was His. “With His stripes we are healed.” [Isaiah 53:5]” —*The Desire of Ages, page 25*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Monday, May 26th, 2025

[Isaiah 53:4-8]

- ↳ ⁴ Surely He has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.
- ⁵ But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed.
- ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and The LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.
- ⁷ He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth: He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He opened not His mouth.
- ⁸ He was taken from prison and from judgement: and who shall declare His generation? for He was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was He stricken.

[Isaiah 53:11]

- ↳ ¹¹ He shall see of the travail of His soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by His knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for He shall bear their iniquities.

[John 3:16-18]

- ↳ ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

[Ephesians 2:13-16]

- ↳ ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.
- ¹⁴ For he is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*;
- ¹⁵ Having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *even* the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances; for to make in Himself of twain one new man, *so* making peace;
- ¹⁶ And that He might reconcile both to God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, May 26th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 153

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 26th

The Measure of Responsibility

If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:6, 7

The degree of light given is the measure of responsibility. The path to heaven will be made plain to all who are faithful in the use of the knowledge they may obtain in regard to the future life.... Look at the first act of transgression in the Garden of Eden. To Adam and Eve were plainly stated the laws of Paradise, with the penalty for wilful disobedience. They disobeyed, and disobedience brought its sure result. Death entered the world.

Transgression is disobedience to the commands of God. Had these commands always been obeyed, there would have been no sin. The penalty of transgression is always death. Christ averted the immediate execution of the death sentence by giving His life for man.... Justice requires that men shall have light, and it also requires that he who refuses to walk in the Heaven-given light, the giving of which cost the death of the Son of God, must receive punishment. It is a principle of justice that the guilt of the sinner shall be proportionate to the knowledge given, but not used, or used in a wrong way. God expects human beings to walk in the light, to testify before angels and before men that they acknowledge Christ as the great propitiation for sin and that they respect His sacrifice as their greatest blessing....

For time and for eternity the sacrifice of the Son of God to save the fallen race will have a binding claim on man. If God had failed to act His part, if He had not fully revealed His will, if He had given human beings any reason for neglecting the great salvation, man might plead ignorance as a valid excuse. But He has made the way plain. He would have all men to be saved. To some is given greater light than to others. Each will be judged by the light given him.... God designed that you should cherish as sacred the light given you.

Daily Scripture

Monday, May 26th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 89

I Will Sing of the Steadfast Love of the Lord

- Psa 89:1 **Maschil of Ethan the Ezrahite.** I will sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations.
- Psa 89:2 For I have said, Mercy shall be built up for ever: thy faithfulness shalt thou establish in the very heavens.
- Psa 89:3 I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant,
- Psa 89:4 Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah.
- Psa 89:5 And the heavens shall praise thy wonders, O LORD: thy faithfulness also in the congregation of the saints.
- Psa 89:6 For who in the heaven can be compared unto the LORD? *who* among the sons of the mighty can be likened unto the LORD?
- Psa 89:7 God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all *them that are* about him.
- Psa 89:8 O LORD God of hosts, who *is* a strong LORD like unto thee? or to thy faithfulness round about thee?
- Psa 89:9 Thou rule the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them.
- Psa 89:10 Thou hast broken Rahab in pieces, as one that is slain; thou hast scattered thine enemies with thy strong arm.
- Psa 89:11 The heavens *are* thine, the earth also *is* thine: *as for* the world and the fullness thereof, thou hast founded them.
- Psa 89:12 The north and the south thou hast created them: Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in thy name.
- Psa 89:13 Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, *and* high is thy right hand.
- Psa 89:14 Justice and judgment *are* the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face.
- Psa 89:15 Blessed *is* the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance.
- Psa 89:16 In thy name shall they rejoice all the day: and in thy righteousness shall they be exalted.
- Psa 89:17 For thou *art* the glory of their strength: and in thy favour our horn shall be exalted.
- Psa 89:18 For the LORD *is* our defence; and the Holy One of Israel *is* our king.
- Psa 89:19 Then thou spoke in vision to thy holy one, and said, I have laid help upon *one that is* mighty; I have exalted *one* chosen out of the people.
- Psa 89:20 I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him:
- Psa 89:21 With whom my hand shall be established: mine arm also shall strengthen him.
- Psa 89:22 The enemy shall not exact upon him; nor the son of wickedness afflict him.
- Psa 89:23 And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague them that hate him.
- Psa 89:24 But my faithfulness and my mercy *shall be* with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted.
- Psa 89:25 I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers.
- Psa 89:26 He shall cry unto me, Thou *art* my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.
- Psa 89:27 Also I will make him *my* firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.
- Psa 89:28 My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him.
- Psa 89:29 His seed also will I make *to endure* for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven.
- Psa 89:30 If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments;
- Psa 89:31 If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments;

- Psa 89:32 Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes.
- Psa 89:33 Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.
- Psa 89:34 My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.
- Psa 89:35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David.
- Psa 89:36 His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me.
- Psa 89:37 It shall be established for ever as the moon, and *as* a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.
- Psa 89:38 But thou hast cast off and abhorred, thou hast been wroth with thine anointed.
- Psa 89:39 Thou hast made void the covenant of thy servant: thou hast profaned his crown *by casting it* to the ground.
- Psa 89:40 Thou hast broken down all his hedges; thou hast brought his strong holds to ruin.
- Psa 89:41 All that pass by the way spoil him: he is a reproach to his neighbours.
- Psa 89:42 Thou hast set up the right hand of his adversaries; thou hast made all his enemies to rejoice.
- Psa 89:43 Thou hast also turned the edge of his sword, and hast not made him to stand in the battle.
- Psa 89:44 Thou hast made his glory to cease, and cast his throne down to the ground.
- Psa 89:45 The days of his youth hast thou shortened: thou hast covered him with shame. Selah.
- Psa 89:46 How long, LORD? wilt thou hide thyself for ever? shall thy wrath burn like fire?
- Psa 89:47 Remember how short my time is: wherefore hast thou made all men in vain?
- Psa 89:48 What man *is he that* lives, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? Selah.
- Psa 89:49 Lord, where *are* thy former loving kindnesses, *which* thou swore unto David in thy truth?
- Psa 89:50 Remember, Lord, the reproach of thy servants; *how* I do bear in my bosom *the reproach of* all the mighty people;
- Psa 89:51 Wherewith thine enemies have reproached, O LORD; wherewith they have reproached the footsteps of thine anointed.
- Psa 89:52 Blessed *be* the LORD for evermore. Amen, and Amen.

Tuesday – May 27th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Zechariah 9:16-17; John 19:30; Romans 5:8; Romans 8:34–39; Ephesians 2:7; Ephesians 3:10-11; Ephesians 5:25–27;

1. How did Paul describe the love of Christ for lost humanity?

- **Romans 5:8** —
- **Romans 8:34–39** —

NOTES : “Jesus did not yield up His life till He had accomplished the work which He came to do, and exclaimed with His departing breath: *“It is finished.”* [John 19:30] Satan was then defeated. He knew that his kingdom was lost. Angels rejoiced as the words were uttered: *“It is finished.”* [John 19:30] The great plan of redemption, which was dependent on the death of Christ, had been thus far carried out. And there was joy in heaven that the sons of Adam could, through a life of obedience, be finally exalted to the throne of God. Oh, what love! What amazing love! that brought the Son of God to earth to be made sin for us, that we might be reconciled to God, and elevated to a life with Him in His mansions in glory. Oh, what is man, that such a price should be paid for his redemption!” — *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 2, page 211*

2. What is Christ's purpose in giving Himself?

- **Ephesians 5:25–27** —

NOTES : “Of His people God says, “They shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon His land. For how great is His goodness, and how great is His beauty!” [Zechariah 9:16-17] The exaltation of the redeemed will be an eternal testimony to God's mercy. “In the ages to come,” He will “show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.” [Ephesians 2:7, R. V.] “To the intent that . . . unto the principalities and the powers in the heavenly places might be made known . . . the manifold wisdom of God, according to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord.” [Ephesians 3:10-11, R. V.] Through Christ's redeeming work the government of God stands justified. The Omnipotent One is made known as the God of love. Satan's charges are refuted, and his character unveiled. Rebellion can never again arise. Sin can never again enter the universe. Through eternal ages all are secure from apostasy. By love's self-sacrifice, the inhabitants of earth and heaven are bound to their Creator in bonds of indissoluble union. The work of redemption will be complete. In the place where sin abounded, God's grace much more abounds.” —*The Desire of Ages, page 26*

3. Heaven's Hotline

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Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, May 27th, 2025

[Zechariah 9:16-17]

- ☞ ¹⁶ And The LORD their God shall save them in that day as the flock of His people: for they *shall be as* the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon His land.
- ¹⁷ For how great *is* His goodness, and how great *is* His beauty! corn shall make the young men cheerful, and new wine the maids.

[John 19:30]

- ☞ ³⁰ When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, He said, “**It is finished:**” and He bowed His head, and gave up the ghost.

[Romans 5:8]

- ☞ ⁸ But God commends His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

[Romans 8:34-39]

- ☞ ³⁴ Who *is* he that condemns? *It is* Christ that died, yes rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.
- ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
- ³⁶ As it is written, For your sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.
- ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.
- ³⁸ For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
- ³⁹ Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

[Ephesians 2:7]

- ☞ ⁷ That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

[Ephesians 3:10-11]

- ☞ ¹⁰ To the intent that now to the principalities and powers in heavenly *places* might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,
- ¹¹ According to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:

[Ephesians 5:25-27]

- ☞ ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it;
- ²⁶ That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by The Word,
- ²⁷ That He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, May 27th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 154

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 27th

The Impress of Heaven

See, says he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

Hebrews 8:5

The Lord gave an important lesson to His people in all ages when to Moses on the mount He gave instruction regarding the building of the tabernacle. In that work He required perfection in every detail.

As wickedness in the world becomes more pronounced and the teachings of evil are more fully developed and widely accepted, the teachings of Christ are to stand forth exemplified in the lives of converted men and women....

Into all to which the Christian sets his hand should be woven the thought of the life eternal. If the work performed is agricultural or mechanical in its nature, it may still be after the pattern of the heavenly.... Through the grace of Christ every provision has been made for the perfecting of Christlike characters, and God is honoured when His people in all their social and business dealings reveal the principles of heaven....

The Lord demands uprightness in the smallest as well as the largest matters. Those who are accepted at last as members of the heavenly court will be men and women who here on earth have sought to carry out the Lord's will in every particular, who have sought to put the impress of heaven upon their earthly labours. In order that the earthly tabernacle might represent the heavenly, it must be perfect in all its parts, and it must be in the smallest detail like the pattern in the heavens. So it is with the characters of those who are finally accepted in the sight of Heaven.

The Son of God came down to earth that in Him men and women might have a representation of the perfect characters which alone God could accept. Through the grace of Christ every provision has been made for the salvation of the human family. It is possible for every transaction entered into by those who claim to be Christians to be as pure as were the deeds of Christ. And the soul who accepts the virtues of Christ's character and appropriates the merits of His life is as precious in the sight of God as was His own beloved Son.

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, May 27th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 90

From Everlasting to Everlasting

- Psa 90:1 **A Prayer of Moses the man of God.** Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.
- Psa 90:2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou *art* God.
- Psa 90:3 Thou turn man to destruction; and say, Return, ye children of men.
- Psa 90:4 For a thousand years in thy sight *are but* as yesterday when it is past, and *as* a watch in the night.
- Psa 90:5 Thou carry them away as with a flood; they are *as* a sleep: in the morning *they are* like grass *which* grows up.
- Psa 90:6 In the morning it flourishes, and grows up; in the evening it is cut down, and withers.
- Psa 90:7 For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled.
- Psa 90:8 Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret *sins* in the light of thy countenance.
- Psa 90:9 For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale *that is told*.
- Psa 90:10 The days of our years *are* threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength *they be* fourscore years, yet *is* their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.
- Psa 90:11 Who knows the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, *so is* thy wrath.
- Psa 90:12 So teach *us* to number our days, that we may apply *our* hearts unto wisdom.
- Psa 90:13 Return, O LORD, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants.
- Psa 90:14 O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- Psa 90:15 Make us glad according to the days *wherein* thou hast afflicted us, *and* the years *wherein* we have seen evil.
- Psa 90:16 Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children.
- Psa 90:17 And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

Wednesday – May 28th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 130:4; John 1:29; 1 John 1:9; Luke 23:34; Romans 5:1;

1. How may sinful man have peace with God?

➤ **Romans 5:1—**

NOTES : “Here the truth is laid out in plain lines. This mercy and goodness is wholly undeserved. The grace of Christ is freely to justify the sinner without merit or claim on his part. Justification is a full, complete pardon of sin. The moment a sinner accepts Christ by faith, that moment he is pardoned. The righteousness of Christ is imputed to him, and he is no more to doubt God's forgiving grace.” — *Signs of the Times, May 19th, 1898*

2. How may we be assured that God will forgive our sins?

➤ **1 John 1:9 —**

➤ **Luke 23:34 —**

NOTES : “There is hope for the sinner. Christ uplifted upon the cross of Calvary furnishes that hope; for mercy has provided to the uttermost demand the victim that justice calls for, for man's transgression. Through the merits of Jesus Christ, God can forgive sin, and be the justifier of him that believeth in Jesus. Precious truth of inestimable value to every repenting soul! Shall we not individually seek to appreciate, as far as it is possible, the fact that God forgives sin, that he loves us if we believe in Jesus, though we are erring, ignorant, and sinful, even as he loves his Son? The moment we ask for forgiveness in contrition and sincerity, God forgives. Oh, what a glorious truth! Preach it, pray it, sing it. Lift up the “Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.” [John 1:29] Say to the people, “Behold the man of Calvary!” [EGW] God is waiting to forgive all who come unto him with sincere repentance. The Psalmist says, “There is forgiveness with Thee, that Thou might be feared.” [Psalm 130:4]—*Signs of the Times, September 4th, 1893*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, May 28th, 2025

[Psalms 130:4]

↳ ⁴ But *there is* forgiveness with You, that You may be feared.

[John 1:29]

↳ ²⁹ The next day John sees Jesus coming to him, and said, “Behold The Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world.”

[1 John 1:9]

↳ ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[Luke 23:4]

↳ ⁴ Then said Pilate to the chief priests and *to* the people, I find no fault in this man.

[Romans 5:1]

↳ ¹ Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, May 28th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 155

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 28th

Filled With His Fullness

And to know the love of Christ, which passes knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:19

Only those will have a fitness for the mansions above who give to God full and implicit obedience. God knows that we would not appreciate His rarest gifts if we were not perfectly submissive to obey Him, and always keep His glory in view....

Whatever your temperament may be, whatever your hereditary and cultivated tendencies may be, there is a character to be formed after the divine pattern. We have no excuse for retaining our own mould and superscription of nature, for Christ has died that we may have His mould and His superscription. We cannot retain our own self and be filled with the fullness of God. We must be emptied of self. If heaven is gained by us at last, it will be only through the renunciation of self and in receiving the mind, the spirit, and the will of Christ Jesus....

Are we willing to pay the price for eternal life? Are we ready to sit down and count the cost, whether heaven is worth such a sacrifice as to die to self and let our will be bent and fashioned into perfect conformity with the will of God? Until this shall be, the transforming grace of God will not be experienced by us.

Just as soon as we present our emptied nature to the Lord Jesus and His cause, He will supply the vacuum by His Holy Spirit. We can then believe He will give us of His fullness. He does not want us to perish. We do not want more of God any more urgently than He wants all that there is of us to be consecrated to His service....

Eternity is endless. Our life here is a short period at best, and what and whom are we living and working for? And what will be the outcome of it all?

The religion of Jesus Christ we need daily. Everything we do or say comes under the notice of God. We are a spectacle unto the world, to angels, and to men.... The church of Christ is to represent His character.... Though He had all the strength of passion of humanity, never did He yield to temptation to do one single act which was not pure and elevating and ennobling.

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, May 28th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 91

My Refuge and My Fortress

- Psa 91:1 He that dwells in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
- Psa 91:2 I will say of the LORD, *He is* my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.
- Psa 91:3 Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, *and* from the noisome pestilence.
- Psa 91:4 He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth *shall be thy* shield and buckler.
- Psa 91:5 Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; *nor* for the arrow *that* flies by day;
- Psa 91:6 *Nor* for the pestilence *that* walks in darkness; *nor* for the destruction *that* wastes at noontday.
- Psa 91:7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; *but* it shall not come nigh thee.
- Psa 91:8 Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.
- Psa 91:9 Because thou hast made the LORD, *which is* my refuge, *even* the most High, thy habitation;
- Psa 91:10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.
- Psa 91:11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.
- Psa 91:12 They shall bear thee up in *their* hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.
- Psa 91:13 Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.
- Psa 91:14 Because he has set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he has known my name.
- Psa 91:15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: *I will be* with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.
- Psa 91:16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

Thursday – May 29th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 40:8; Isaiah 64:6; Matthew 22:11–14; John 15:10; Romans 5:8; 1 John 3:4-5;

1. Having been reconciled to God by the death of His Son, what important work will His life do for us?

➤ **Romans 5:8** —

NOTES : “So the sowers have something to do that the seed may not be choked with thorns or perish because of shallowness of soil. At the very outset of the Christian life every believer should be taught its foundation principles. He should be taught that he is not merely to be saved by Christ's sacrifice, but that he is to make the life of Christ his life and the character of Christ his character.” —*Christ's Object Lessons, page 57*

“As the blood of the slain lamb sheltered the homes of Israel, so the blood of Christ was to save their souls; but they could be saved through Christ only as by faith they should make His life their own.” —*The Desire of Ages, page 82*

2. How does Christ illustrate this truth in parable form?

➤ **Matthew 22:11–14** —

NOTES : “This robe, woven in the loom of heaven, has in it not one thread of human devising. Christ in His humanity wrought out a perfect character, and this character He offers to impart to us. “All our righteousness are as filthy rags.” [Isaiah 64:6] Everything that we of ourselves can do is defiled by sin. But the Son of God “was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin.” Sin is defined to be “the transgression of the law.” [1 John 3:4-5] But Christ was obedient to every requirement of the law. He said of Himself, “I delight to do Thy will, O My God; yea, Thy law is within My heart.” [Psalm 40:8] When on earth, He said to His disciples, “I have kept My Father's commandments.” [John 15:10] By His perfect obedience, He has made it possible for every human being to obey God's commandments. When we submit ourselves to Christ, the heart is united with His heart, the will is merged in His will, the mind becomes one with His mind, the thoughts are brought into captivity to Him; we live His life. This is what it means to be clothed with the garment of His righteousness. Then as the Lord looks upon us He sees, not the fig-leaf garment, not the nakedness and deformity of sin, but His own robe of righteousness, which is perfect obedience to the law of Jehovah.” —*Christ's Object Lessons, page 311*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Thursday, May 29th, 2025

[Psalms 40:8]

8 I delight to do Your will, O my God: yes, Your law *is* within my heart.

[Isaiah 64:6]

6 But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

[Matthew 22:11-14]

- ↪ ¹¹ And when The King came in to see the guests, He saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:
- ¹² And He said to him, Friend, how came you in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.
- ¹³ Then said The King to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- ¹⁴ For many are called, but few *are* chosen.

[John 15:10]

- ↪ ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you shall abide in My love; even as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love.

[Romans 5:8]

- ↪ ⁸ But God commends His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

[1 John 3:4-5]

- ↪ ⁴ Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.
- ⁵ And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, May 29th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 156

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 29th

Weighed in Heaven’s Balances

The Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.

1 Samuel 2:3

The Lord is a God of knowledge. In His Word He is represented as weighing men, their development of character and all their motives, whether they be good or evil....

It is for the eternal interest of everyone to search his own heart and to improve every God-given faculty. Let all remember that there is not a motive in the heart of any man that the Lord does not clearly see. The motives of each one are weighed as carefully as if the destiny of the human agent depended upon this one result.... God in heaven is true, and there is not a design, however intricate, or a motive, however carefully hidden, that He does not clearly understand. He reads the secret devisings of every heart.

Men may plan out crooked actions for the future, thinking that God does not understand; but in that great day when the books are opened, and every man is judged by the things written in the books, those actions will appear as they are....

There are many who need now to consider the words, “*TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.*” (Daniel 5:27). God’s holy, everlasting, immutable law is the standard by which man is to be tried. This law defines what we shall do and what we shall not do, saying, Thou shalt, and, Thou shalt not. This law is summed up in the two great principles, “*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.*” (Luke 10:27).

This means just what it says. O how few will be prepared to meet the law of God in the great day of judgment! ... Man, weighed against God’s holy law, is found wanting.

We are enlightened by the precepts of the law, but no man can by them be justified. Weighed and found wanting is our inscription by nature. But Christ is our mediator, and accepting Him as our Saviour, we may claim the promise, “*Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*” (Romans 5:1)

Daily Scripture

Thursday, May 29th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 92

How Great Are Your Works

- Psa 92:1 **A Psalm or Song for the Sabbath day.** *It is a good thing* to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High:
- Psa 92:2 To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night,
- Psa 92:3 Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound.
- Psa 92:4 For thou, LORD, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands.
- Psa 92:5 O LORD, how great are thy works! *and* thy thoughts are very deep.
- Psa 92:6 A brutish man knows not; neither doth a fool understand this.
- Psa 92:7 When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity do flourish; *it is* that they shall be destroyed for ever:
- Psa 92:8 But thou, LORD, *art most* high for evermore.
- Psa 92:9 For, lo, thine enemies, O LORD, for, lo, thine enemies shall perish; all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.
- Psa 92:10 But my horn shalt thou exalt like *the horn of* an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.
- Psa 92:11 Mine eye also shall see *my desire* on mine enemies, *and* mine ears shall hear *my desire* of the wicked that rise up against me.
- Psa 92:12 The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
- Psa 92:13 Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.
- Psa 92:14 They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;
- Psa 92:15 To shew that the LORD *is* upright: *he is* my rock, and *there is* no unrighteousness in him.

Preparation Day – May 30th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Daniel 12:10; Romans 11:13, Hebrews 9:28, Hebrews 10:38; 1 Peter 1:5, 1 Peter 1:9

1. When will the work of salvation from our sins be complete?

- 1 Peter 1:5 —
- Romans 11:13 —
- Hebrews 9:28 —
- 1 Peter 1:9 —

NOTES : “Those who accept the Saviour, however sincere their conversion, should never be taught to say or to feel that they are saved. This is misleading. Everyone should be taught to cherish hope and faith; but even when we give ourselves to Christ and know that He accepts us, we are not beyond the reach of temptation. God's word declares, “Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried.” [Daniel 12:10] “Only he who endures the trial will receive the crown of life.” [James 1:12] Those who accept Christ, and in their first confidence say, I am saved, are in danger of trusting to themselves. They lose sight of their own weakness and their constant need of divine strength. They are unprepared for Satan's devices, and under temptation many, like Peter, fall into the very depths of sin.” —*Christ's Object Lessons, page 155*

“Those who are teaching this doctrine to-day have much to say in regard to faith and the righteousness of Christ; but they pervert the truth, and make it serve the cause of error. They declare that we have only to believe on Jesus Christ, and that faith is all-sufficient: that the righteousness of Christ is to be the sinner's credentials; that this imputed righteousness fulfils the law for us, and that we are under no obligation to obey the law of God. This class claim that Christ came to save sinners, and that He has saved them. “I am saved,” they will repeat over and over again. But are they saved while transgressing the law of Jehovah? No; for the garments of Christ's righteousness are not a cloak for iniquity.” —*Bible Echo, February 8th, 1897*

“We are never to rest in a satisfied condition, and cease to make advancement, saying, “I am saved.” When this idea is entertained, the motives for watchfulness, for prayer, for earnest endeavour to press onward to higher attainments, cease to exist. No sanctified tongue will be found uttering these words till Christ shall come, and we enter in through the gates into the city of God. Then, with the utmost propriety, we may give glory to God and to the Lamb for eternal deliverance. As long as man is full of weakness, for of himself he cannot save his soul, he should never dare to say, “I am saved.” It is not he that puts on the armour that can boast of the victory; for he has the battle to fight and the victory to win. It is he that endures unto the end that shall be saved. The Lord says, “If any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.” [Hebrews 10:38] If we do not go forward from victory to victory, the soul will draw back to perdition. We should raise no human standard whereby to measure character. We have seen enough of what men call perfection here below. God's holy law is the only thing by which we can determine whether we are keeping his way or not. If we are disobedient, our characters are out of harmony with God's moral rule of government, and it is stating a falsehood to say, “I am saved.” No-one is saved who is a transgressor of the law of God, which is the foundation of his government in heaven and in earth” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, June 17th, 1890*

3. Heaven’s Hotline



Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, May 30th, 2025

[Daniel 12:10]

↪ ¹⁰ Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

[Romans 11:13]

↪ ¹³ For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify my office:

[Hebrews 9:28]

↪ ²⁸ So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and to them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

[Hebrews 10:38]

↪ ³⁸ Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, My soul shall have no pleasure in him.

[1 Peter 1:5]

↪ ⁵ Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

[1 Peter 1:9]

↪ ⁹ Receiving the end of your faith, *even* the salvation of *your* souls.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, May 30th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 157

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 30th

A Divine-Human Partnership

Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments.

Psalm 119:73

The human organism is the handiwork of God. The organs employed in all the different functions of the body were made by Him. The Lord gives us food and drink, that the wants of the body may be supplied. He has given the earth different properties adapted to the growth of food for His children. He gives the sunshine and the showers, the early and the latter rain. He forms the clouds and sends the dew. All are His gifts....

But all these blessings will not restore in us His moral image unless we cooperate with Him, making painstaking effort to know ourselves, to understand how to care for the delicate human machinery. Man must diligently help to keep himself in harmony with nature's laws. He who cooperates with God in the work of keeping this wonderful machinery in order, who consecrates all his powers to God, seeking intelligently to obey the laws of nature, stands in his God-given manhood, and is recorded in the books of heaven as *a man*.

God has given man land to be cultivated. But in order that the harvest may be reaped, there must be harmonious action between divine and human agencies. The plough and other implements of labour must be used at the right time. The seed must be sown in its season. Man is not to fail of doing his part. If he is careless and negligent, his unfaithfulness testifies against him. The harvest is proportionate to the energy he has expended.

So it is in spiritual things.... There is to be a co-partnership, a divine relation between the Son of God and the repentant sinner. We are made sons and daughters of God. “As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God” (John 1:12). Christ provides the mercy and grace so abundantly given to all who believe in Him. He fulfils the terms upon which salvation rests. But we must act our part by accepting the blessing in faith. God works and man works. Resistance of temptation must come from man, who must draw his power from God. Thus he becomes a co-partner with Christ.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, May 30th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 93

The Lord Reigns

- Psa 93:1 The LORD reigns, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, *wherewith* he has girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved.
- Psa 93:2 Thy throne *is* established of old: thou *art* from everlasting.
- Psa 93:3 The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their waves.
- Psa 93:4 The LORD on high *is* mightier than the noise of many waters, *yea, than* the mighty waves of the sea.
- Psa 93:5 Thy testimonies are very sure: holiness becomes thine house, O LORD, for ever.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, May 30th, 2025



Tragedy struck Febiola’s [feb-i-OLA] life before she was born in Indonesia.

Mom was three months pregnant with her when Dad died.

Then Mom died when she was 18.

Two years later, Grandmother died. Grandmother’s death hurt the most. Febiola had lived with her grandmother for most of her life, and she couldn’t imagine living without her.

Febiola was studying to become a nurse when her grandmother died. She was living in a dormitory at Klabat University. Her older sister had recommended the Seventh-day Adventist university.

“You can stay in the dorm,” her sister had said. “There are rules in the dorm, and rules are good.”

Febiola wasn’t so sure that the rules were good. The university seemed to have so many rules. It was almost overwhelming compared to her old life with her grandmother. Febiola felt so oppressed!

One rule stated that dorm students had to attend dormitory worship in the morning and evening. Another rule stated that students had to go to worship services every Sabbath at the university church.

Febiola had no interest in God or the Bible, and she complained to her sister about the rules.

“Just continue,” her sister replied. “You won’t regret it. Rules are good.”

Febiola still wasn’t so sure that the rules were good. But she decided to give the university a chance.

Febiola shared a dorm room with three Adventist roommates, and they invited her to join them in praying and worshipping together in their room. They invited her to welcome the Sabbath together on Friday evenings.

Febiola wasn't thrilled about mandatory attendance at evening and morning worships in the dorm and Sabbath services in the church. She couldn't understand why her roommates not only enjoyed the worship gatherings but also wanted to extend them in their dorm room.

Curiosity rose in her heart.

“Why should we worship on Sabbath?” she asked her roommates.

“If you would like to know more about worshipping on the Sabbath, we could ask the pastor to teach you more,” a roommate replied.

Febiola said she didn't feel ready to discuss the Bible with the pastor.

“That's fine if you don't feel comfortable,” the roommate said. “You're required to take six religion classes at the university. You can learn more about the Sabbath there.”

All students at Klabat University are required to take six religion classes, and Febiola found answers to her Sabbath question during those classes. When she finished the last class, which was about the book of Revelation, she told the teacher that she wanted Bible studies.

The next semester, the Bible studies began in earnest. The dormitory dean, Delly, and her husband studied the Bible with her.

In time, Febiola decided to accept Jesus as her personal Savior. She gave her heart to Him and was baptized.

In the months since her baptism, a new joy has filled her heart. Despite losing her father, mother, and grandmother, she has gained a new family at the university. The dormitory dean and her husband are like parents, and her roommates are like sisters. In addition, she no longer feels oppressed by the university rules.

“Now I think that rules are for my own good,” she said with a smile.

The Edelweiss dormitory where Febiola lives at Klabat University near Manado, Indonesia, was built with the help of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering in 1981. Febiola is among a number of young women whom the dormitory dean and her husband have led to baptism. With God's blessing, the impact of your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will be as long-lasting as the offering that built the dormitory at Klabat University about 44 years ago. Thank you for planning a generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering on June 28.

By Andrew McChesney

LESSON 10

“THOU ART OUR FATHER”

May 31 — June 6

📖 MEMORY VERSE : *“But now, O LORD, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You our Potter; and we all are the work of Your hand.” [Isaiah 64:8]*

? STUDY HELP : ✓ Steps to Christ, pages 9–15

🗨 INTRODUCTION : “O that everyone would realise the great love, the self-sacrifice, the benevolence, and the kindness of our heavenly Father, in giving His Son to die for us that we might, if we believe and do His commandments, have a sweet peace, the Father's joy, the Father's love, and unite with Him, heart, soul, mind, and strength, to maintain righteousness and to draw in even lines with Christ. It is not the sacrifice of Christ only; it is the Father's sacrifice also. The Father, in union and loving sympathy, with His Son, subjected Himself to suffer with His Son. He spared not His only begotten Son but freely delivered Him up for us all. This gift of Christ is the crowning truth of God's love, and this Fatherhood, through all time and through eternity. Here is the love of God in His Fatherhood. Let us drink in this love, that we may know by experience what a real, tender, joyful, experience there is in a realisation of the Fatherhood of God.”—*Spalding & Magan Collection, page 68*

Sabbath – May 31st

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 6:9; Luke 11:1–2;

1. How did Jesus teach us to address God?

➤ Luke 11:1–2 —

NOTE : “Our Father which art in heaven.” [Matthew 6:9; Luke 11:2;] The word “our” expresses a sense of human brotherhood; the word “Father” that of childlike trust. In ancient time there was usually associated with the name “father” all the affection and tenderness now centred in the word “mother.” When from the heart we say, “Our Father,” we worship God in truth. This petition carries the suppliant away from earth and human beings to the One who is unerring in judgement, compassionate, merciful, pure, and holy.”—*Signs of the Times, March 29th, 1905*

2. Heaven’s Hotline:

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, May 31st, 2025

[Matthew 6:9]

↪ ⁹ After this manner therefore you pray: Our Father which *is* in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

[Luke 11:1-2]

↪ ¹ And it came to pass, that, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, one of His disciples said to Him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.

² And He said to them, **When you pray, say, Our Father which *is* in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.**

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

E. G. W. Study Help

Sabbath, May 31st, 2025

Steps to Christ Chapter 1, p. 9-15

“God’s Love for Man”

Nature and revelation alike testify of God's love. Our Father in heaven is the source of life, of wisdom, and of joy. Look at the wonderful and beautiful things of nature. Think of their marvellous adaptation to the needs and happiness, not only of man, but of all living creatures. The sunshine and the rain, that gladden and refresh the earth, the hills and seas and plains, all speak to us of the Creator's love. It is God who supplies the daily needs of all His creatures. In the beautiful words of the psalmist—

“The eyes of all wait upon You;
And You give them their meat in due season.
You open Your hand,
And satisfy the desire of every living thing.”

[Psalm 145:15-16]

God made man perfectly holy and happy; and the fair earth, as it came from the Creator's hand, bore no blight of decay or shadow of the curse. It is transgression of God's law--the law of love--that has brought woe and death. Yet even amid the suffering that results from sin, God's love is revealed. It is written that God cursed the ground for man's sake. Genesis 3:17. The thorn and the thistle--the difficulties and trials that make his life one of toil and care--were appointed for his good as a part of the training needful in God's plan for his uplifting from the ruin and degradation that sin has wrought. The world, though fallen, is not all sorrow and misery. In nature itself are messages of hope and comfort. There are flowers upon the thistles, and the thorns are covered with roses.

"God is love" is written upon every opening bud, upon every spire of springing grass. The lovely birds making the air vocal with their happy songs, the delicately tinted flowers in their perfection perfuming the air, the lofty trees of the forest with their rich foliage of living green -- all testify to the tender, fatherly care of our God and to His desire to make His children happy.

The word of God reveals His character. He Himself has declared His infinite love and pity. When Moses prayed, "Show me Thy glory," the Lord answered, "I will make all My goodness pass before thee." Exodus 33:18, 19. This is His glory. The Lord passed before Moses, and proclaimed, "The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin." Exodus 34:6, 7. He is "slow to anger, and of great kindness," "because He delights in mercy." Jonah 4:2; Micah 7:18.

God has bound our hearts to Him by unnumbered tokens in heaven and in earth. Through the things of nature, and the deepest and tenderest earthly ties that human hearts can know, He has sought to reveal Himself to us. Yet these but imperfectly represent His love. Though all these evidences have been given, the enemy of good blinded the minds of men, so that they looked upon God with fear; they thought of Him as severe and unforgiving. Satan led men to conceive of God as a being whose chief attribute is stern justice,--one who is a severe judge, a harsh, exacting creditor. He pictured the Creator as a being who is watching with jealous eye to discern the errors and mistakes of men, that He may visit judgments upon them. It was to remove this dark shadow, by revealing to the world the infinite love of God, that Jesus came to live among men.

The Son of God came from heaven to make manifest the Father. "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him." John 1:18. "Neither knows any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal Him." Matthew 11:27. When one of the disciples made the request, "Show us the Father," Jesus answered, "Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not

known Me, Philip? He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father; and how say thou then, Show us the Father?" John 14:8, 9.

In describing His earthly mission, Jesus said, The Lord "hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised." Luke 4:18. This was His work. He went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by Satan. There were whole villages where there was not a moan of sickness in any house, for He had passed through them and healed all their sick. His work gave evidence of His divine anointing. Love, mercy, and compassion were revealed in every act of His life; His heart went out in tender sympathy to the children of men. He took man's nature, that He might reach man's wants. The poorest and humblest were not afraid to approach Him. Even little children were attracted to Him. They loved to climb upon His knees and gaze into the pensive face, benignant with love.

Jesus did not suppress one word of truth, but He uttered it always in love. He exercised the greatest tact and thoughtful, kind attention in His intercourse with the people. He was never rude, never needlessly spoke a severe word, never gave needless pain to a sensitive soul. He did not censure human weakness. He spoke the truth, but always in love. He denounced hypocrisy, unbelief, and iniquity; but tears were in His voice as He uttered His scathing rebukes. He wept over Jerusalem, the city He loved, which refused to receive Him, the way, the truth, and the life. They had rejected Him, the Saviour, but He regarded them with pitying tenderness. His life was one of self-denial and thoughtful care for others. Every soul was precious in His eyes. While He ever bore Himself with divine dignity, He bowed with the tenderest regard to every member of the family of God. In all men He saw fallen souls whom it was His mission to save.

Such is the character of Christ as revealed in His life. This is the character of God. It is from the Father's heart that the streams of divine compassion, manifest in Christ, flow out to the children of men. Jesus, the tender, pitying Saviour, was God "manifest in the flesh." 1 Timothy 3:16.

It was to redeem us that Jesus lived and suffered and died. He became "a Man of Sorrows," that we might be made partakers of everlasting joy. God permitted His beloved Son, full of grace and truth, to come from a world of indescribable glory, to a world marred and blighted with sin, darkened with the shadow of death and the curse. He permitted Him to leave the bosom of His love, the adoration of the angels, to suffer shame, insult, humiliation, hatred, and death. "The chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed." Isaiah 53:5. Behold Him in the wilderness, in Gethsemane, upon the cross! The spotless Son of God took upon Himself the burden of sin. He who had been one with God, felt in His soul the awful separation that sin makes between God and man. This wrung from His lips the anguished cry, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" Matthew 27:46. It was the burden of sin, the sense of its terrible enormity, of its separation of the soul from God--it was this that broke the heart of the Son of God.

But this great sacrifice was not made in order to create in the Father's heart a love for man, not to make Him willing to save. No, no! "God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son." John 3:16. The Father loves us, not because of the great propitiation, but He provided the propitiation because He loves us. Christ was the medium through which He could pour out His infinite love upon a fallen world. "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself." 2 Corinthians 5:19. God suffered with His Son. In the agony of Gethsemane, the death of Calvary, the heart of Infinite Love paid the price of our redemption.

Jesus said, "Therefore doth My Father love Me, because I lay down My life, that I might take it again." John 10:17. That is, "My Father has so loved you that He even loves Me more for giving My life to redeem you. In becoming your Substitute and Surety, by surrendering My life, by taking your liabilities, your transgressions, I am endeared to My Father; for by My sacrifice, God can be just, and yet the Justifier of him who believeth in Jesus."

None but the Son of God could accomplish our redemption; for only He who was in the bosom of the Father could declare Him. Only He who knew the height and depth of the love of God could make it manifest. Nothing less than the infinite sacrifice made by Christ in behalf of fallen man could express the Father's love to lost humanity.

"God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son." He gave Him not only to live among men, to bear their sins, and die their sacrifice. He gave Him to the fallen race. Christ was to identify Himself with the interests and needs of humanity. He who was one with God has linked Himself with the children of men by ties that are never to be broken. Jesus is "not ashamed to call them brethren" (Hebrews 2:11); He is our Sacrifice, our Advocate, our Brother, bearing our human form before the Father's throne, and through eternal ages one with the race He has redeemed--the Son of man. And all this that man might be uplifted from the ruin and degradation of sin that he might reflect the love of God and share the joy of holiness.

The price paid for our redemption, the infinite sacrifice of our heavenly Father in giving His Son to die for us, should give us exalted conceptions of what we may become through Christ. As the inspired apostle John beheld the height, the depth, the breadth of the Father's love toward the perishing race, he was filled with adoration and reverence; and, failing to find suitable language in which to express the greatness and tenderness of this love, he called upon the world to behold it. "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God." 1 John 3:1. What a value this places upon man! Through transgression the sons of man become subjects of Satan. Through faith in the atoning sacrifice of Christ the sons of Adam may become the sons of God. By assuming human nature, Christ elevates humanity. Fallen men are placed where, through connection with Christ, they may indeed become worthy of the name "sons of God."

Such love is without a parallel. Children of the heavenly King! Precious promise! Theme for the most profound meditation! The matchless love of God for a world that did not love Him! The thought has a subduing power upon the soul and brings the mind into captivity to the will of God. The more we study the divine character in the light of the cross, the more we see mercy, tenderness, and forgiveness blended with equity and justice, and the more clearly we discern innumerable evidences of a love that is infinite and a tender pity surpassing a mother's yearning sympathy for her wayward child.

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, May 31st, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 158

“Law, Liberty and Obedience”

May 31st

Blessings Unlimited

That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God.

Colossians 1:10

Let us study Paul’s prayer for his Colossian brethren. “For this cause we also,” he wrote, “since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness” (Colossians 1:9-11).

How complete this prayer is! There is no limit to the blessings that it is our privilege to receive. We may be “filled with the knowledge of his will.” The Holy Ghost would never have inspired Paul to offer this prayer in behalf of his brethren if it had not been possible for them to receive an answer from God in accordance with the request....

To the church at Ephesus Paul wrote: “*For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passes knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end.*” (Ephesians 3:14-21).

Here are brought to view the possibilities of the Christian life. How far short of reaching this standard falls the church of today! ... Self, self, self—all this is manifest.... When shall we awake? When shall we meet the expectations of Christ?

Daily Scripture

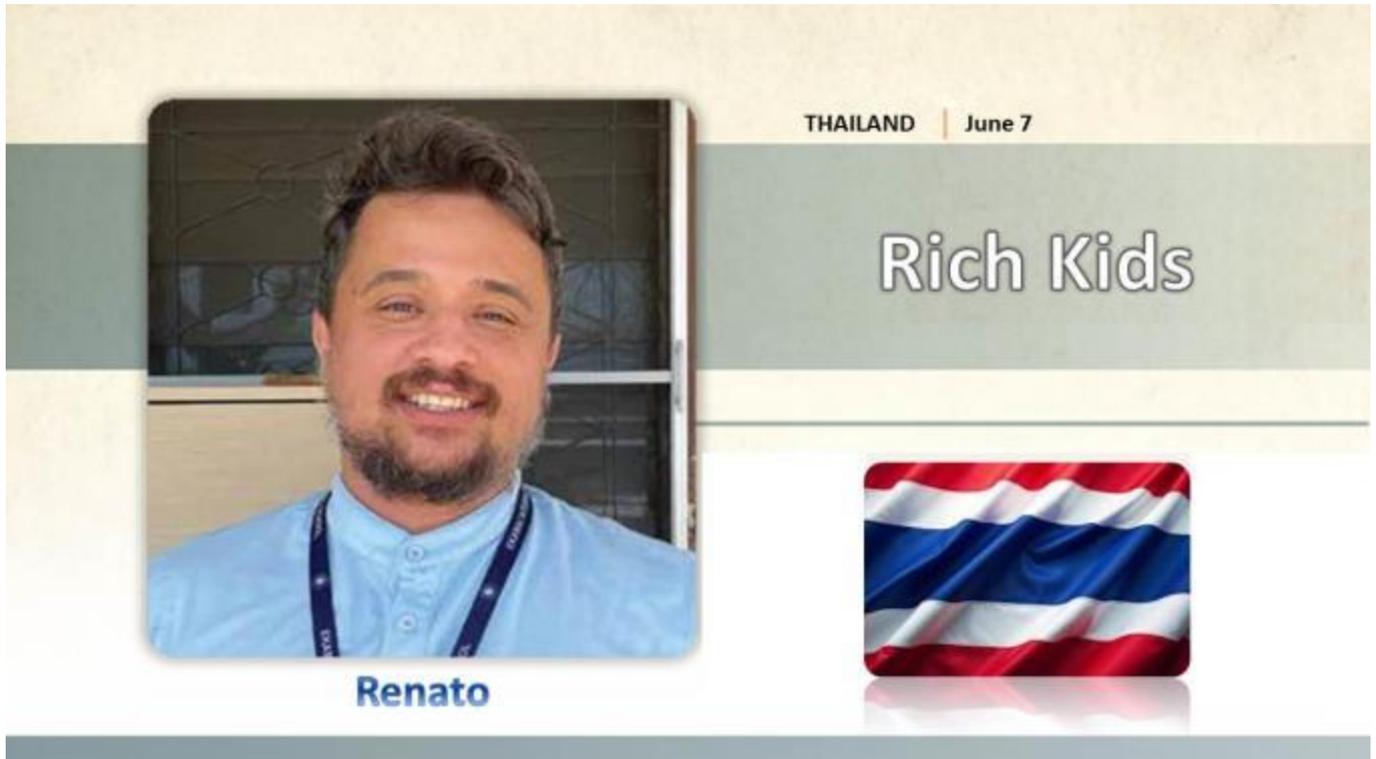
Sabbath, May 31st, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 94

The Lord Will Not Forsake His People

- Psa 94:1 O LORD God, to whom vengeance belongs; O God, to whom vengeance belongs, shew thyself.
- Psa 94:2 Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud.
- Psa 94:3 LORD, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph?
- Psa 94:4 *How long* shall they utter *and* speak hard things? *and* all the workers of iniquity boast themselves?
- Psa 94:5 They break in pieces thy people, O LORD, and afflict thine heritage.
- Psa 94:6 They slay the widow and the stranger, and murder the fatherless.
- Psa 94:7 Yet they say, The LORD shall not see, neither shall the God of Jacob regard *it*.
- Psa 94:8 Understand, ye brutish among the people: and *ye* fools, when will ye be wise?
- Psa 94:9 He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? he that formed the eye, shall he not see?
- Psa 94:10 He that chastises the heathen, shall not he correct? he that teaches man knowledge, *shall not he know?*
- Psa 94:11 The LORD knows the thoughts of man, that they *are* vanity.
- Psa 94:12 Blessed *is* the man whom thou chasten, O LORD, and teaches him out of thy law;
- Psa 94:13 That thou may give him rest from the days of adversity, until the pit be dug for the wicked.
- Psa 94:14 For the LORD will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his inheritance.
- Psa 94:15 But judgment shall return unto righteousness: and all the upright in heart shall follow it.
- Psa 94:16 Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? *or* who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?
- Psa 94:17 Unless the LORD *had been* my help, my soul had almost dwelt in silence.
- Psa 94:18 When I said, My foot slips; thy mercy, O LORD, held me up.
- Psa 94:19 In the multitude of my thoughts within me thy comforts delight my soul.
- Psa 94:20 Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frames mischief by a law?
- Psa 94:21 They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous, and condemn the innocent blood.
- Psa 94:22 But the LORD is my defence; and my God *is* the rock of my refuge.
- Psa 94:23 And he shall bring upon them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; *yea*, the LORD our God shall cut them off.



Renato moved far, far away from his home in Brazil to become a missionary in Thailand. He teaches 100 children in the fourth grade at a Seventh-day Adventist school in Bangkok.

While Renato was still at home in Brazil, he prayed and prayed about becoming a missionary. When he received an invitation to become a missionary teacher in Thailand, he thought that God had answered his prayers. But when he arrived in Thailand, he wasn’t sure. He had always thought that missionaries were supposed to teach poor people about Jesus. But the children at his new school weren’t poor. They were rich kids. All of them came from wealthy families. Their daddies and mommies were ambassadors, models, and soccer players.

Renato was confused. Why had God allowed him to come to Thailand? He prayed, “God, did You want me to travel 10,000 miles to serve rich people? There are many poor people in Brazil who need my help. Why did You bring me here?”

Then came Renato’s first day as teacher at the school. He felt a little scared. He felt a little nervous all over. But somehow, he managed to get through the day.

The next day, he decided to eat with the children in the school cafeteria. He wanted to hear what the children were talking about. He wanted to make new friends.

Renato went through line and received a bowl of noodles. Then he sat down at a table with a group of fourth graders from his class. But before eating, he closed his eyes to pray.

Usually, Renato also folded his hands to pray. But on this day, he stretched out his hands with the palms facing up. He wasn’t sure why he prayed that way. He just did.

“Dear God,” he prayed silently. “Thank You for this food. Please bless it.”

When he opened his eyes, he saw that one of his new students, a 9-year-old girl, was staring at him intently and when she saw that he was looking at her, she spoke up.

“What were you doing?” she asked.

“I was praying,” he said.

The girl looked puzzled.

“But you can’t pray like that,” she said. “You need to fold your hands.”

The girl, like many of the 1,500 children at the school, came from a non-Christian home. No one prayed to the God of heaven at her home. Everything that she knew about praying to God had been taught at the school. Her previous teacher had taught her to close her eyes and fold her hands when she prayed, and now she couldn’t understand why Renato had closed his eyes but hadn’t folded his hands.

“Does God listen to this kind of prayer?” she said.

“For sure!” Renato said with a big smile. “He listens to everyone. I have prayed driving a car with open eyes.”

Shock and amazement flashed across the girl’s face. “Can you pray with open eyes?” she said.

Renato’s smile grew bigger.

“I’ve prayed while cooking,” he said. “I’ve prayed while working out.”

The girl’s shock and amazement grew even bigger. Renato decided to have some fun. He said that he had even prayed to God in the bathroom.

“What?” the girl exclaimed. “Can God hear you there?”

“God can hear you everywhere,” Renato said. “He is just waiting for you to talk to Him. Sometimes, He talks to you even if you don’t talk to Him. But You can pray to Him everywhere, even with open eyes and open hands.”

The girl didn’t say anything. She was so shocked and amazed that she didn’t even blink. After a long moment of silence, she got up and left the table. She had a lot to think about.

At that moment, Renato realized why God had sent him to Thailand. Rich kids also needed to know God. Being a missionary wasn’t only about sharing the God’s love with poor people. Being a missionary was about sharing God’s love with everyone, everywhere.

Pray for Adventist missionaries like Renato at Ekamai International School in Bangkok, Thailand, as they share God’s love with everyone around the world. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter that will help more kids know about the God who hears prayers everywhere.

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – June 1st

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 103:13–14; Matthew 13:38; John 8:41–44;

1. How did David describe the fatherhood of God?

➤ **Psalm 103:13–14** —

NOTES : “God cares for every lost soul; “like as a father pities his children, so the Lord pities them that fear Him.” [Psalm 103:13] Such a conception of God was never given to the world by any religion but that of the Bible. Heathenism teaches men to look upon the Supreme Being as an object of fear rather than of love, a malign deity to be appeased by sacrifices, rather than a Father pouring upon His children the gift of His love. Even the people of Israel had become so blinded to the precious teaching of the prophets concerning God that this revelation of His paternal love was as an original subject, a new gift to the world.” —*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, page 74*

2. Whom does the sinner have for his father?

➤

3. How is this revealed in the life of the sinner?

➤ **John 8:41–44** —

➤ **Matthew 13:38** —

NOTES : “Jesus denied that the Jews were children of Abraham. He said, “*You do the deeds of your father.*” [John 8:41] In mockery they answered, “We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.” [John 8:41] These words, in allusion to the circumstances of His birth, were intended as a thrust against Christ in the presence of those who were beginning to believe on Him. Jesus gave no heed to the base insinuation, but said, “*If God were your Father, you would love Me: for I proceeded forth and came from God.*” [John 8:42] Their works testified of their relationship to him who was a liar and a murderer. Said Jesus, “*You are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father it is your will to do.*” [John 8:44]” —*The Desire of Ages, page 467*

4. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sunday, June 1st, 2025

[Psalms 103:13-14]

↪ ¹³ Like as a father pities *his* children, *so* The LORD pitied them that fear Him. ¹⁴ For He knows our frame; He remembers that we *are* dust.

[Matthew 13:38]

↪ ³⁸ The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked *one*;

[John 8:41-44]

↪ ⁴¹ **You do the deeds of your father.** Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, *even* God.

⁴² Jesus said to them, **If God were your Father, you would love Me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of Myself, but He sent Me.**

⁴³ **Why do you not understand My speech? *even* because you cannot hear My Word.**

⁴⁴ **You are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father you will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.**

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, June 1st, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 159

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 1st

Building With God

For we are labourers together with God: ye are God’s husbandry, ye are God’s building.

1 Corinthians 3:9

This figure represents human character, which is to be wrought upon point by point. Each day God works on His building, stroke upon stroke, to perfect the structure, that it may become a holy temple for Him. Man is to cooperate with God, striving in His strength to make himself what God designs him to be, building his life with pure, noble deeds.

Man works and God works. Man is called upon to strain every muscle and to exercise every faculty in the struggle for immortality, but it is God who supplies the efficiency. God has made amazing sacrifices for human beings. He has expended mighty energy to reclaim man from transgression and sin to loyalty and obedience, but He does nothing without the cooperation of humanity.... It is by unceasing endeavour that we maintain the victory over the temptations of Satan....

No one is borne upward without stern, persevering effort in his own behalf. All must engage in the warfare for themselves. Individually we are responsible for the issue of the struggle; though Noah, Daniel, and Job were in the land, they could deliver neither son nor daughter by their righteousness....

Often the training and education of a lifetime must be discarded, that one may become a learner in the school of Christ. Our hearts must be educated to become steadfast in God. We are to form habits of thought that will enable us to resist temptation. We must learn to look upward. The principles of the Word of God—principles that are as high as heaven and that compass eternity—we are to understand in their bearing on our daily life. Every act, every word, every thought, is to be in accord with these principles.

The precious graces of the Holy Spirit are not developed in a moment. Courage, fortitude, meekness, faith, unwavering trust in God’s power to save, are acquired by the experience of years. By a life of holy endeavour and firm adherence to the right the children of God are to seal their destiny.

Daily Scripture

Sunday, June 1st, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 95

Let Us Sing Songs of Praise

- Psa 95:1 O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
- Psa 95:2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.
- Psa 95:3 For the LORD *is* a great God, and a great King above all gods.
- Psa 95:4 In his hand *are* the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills *is* his also.
- Psa 95:5 The sea *is* his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry *land*.
- Psa 95:6 O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.
- Psa 95:7 For he *is* our God; and we *are* the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Today if ye will hear his voice,
- Psa 95:8 Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, *and* as *in* the day of temptation in the wilderness:
- Psa 95:9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work.
- Psa 95:10 Forty years long was I grieved with *this* generation, and said, It *is* a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways:
- Psa 95:11 Unto whom I swear in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest.

Monday - June 2nd

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Ezekiel 36:26; Matthew 5:44–45 ; Matthew 12:49-50; John 1:12; John 14:6; John 15:5; 1 Corinthians 3:9; Philippians 2:12-13; Philippians 4:13;

1. How may we become sons and daughters of God?

➤ **John 1:12** —

NOTES : “Behold Christ. Beholding Him brings mind and heart and character into conformity to the will of God. Thus man is enabled to follow Christ's example. He sees that his faults must be overcome, and that his appetites and passions must be subject to God's will, that he must be a partaker of the divine nature, having overcome the corruption that is in the world through lust. The convicted sinner, having repented for his transgression of God's law, strives earnestly to overcome sin. He seeks to reveal the power of Christ's grace, and he is brought into personal touch with the Saviour. Constantly he keeps Christ before him. Denying self, and lifting the cross, he follows the Redeemer from grade to grade of perfection. Praying, believing, receiving the blessings he needs, he comes nearer and nearer to God's standard for him. Christ is our example, our inspiration, our exceeding great reward. “You are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.” [1 Corinthians 3:9] God is the Master-Builder, but man has a part to act. He is to co-operate with God. “We are labourers together with God.” [1 Corinthians 3:9] Never forget the words, “together with God.” [1 Corinthians 3:9] “Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which works in you, both to will and to do of his good pleasure.” [Philippians 2:12-13] The miracle-working power of Christ's grace is revealed in the creation in man of a new heart, a higher life, a holy enthusiasm. God says, “A new heart also will I give unto you.” [Ezekiel 36:26] Is not this renewal of man the greatest miracle that can be performed? What can not the human agent do who by faith takes hold of divine power? He loves the Lord Jesus with his whole heart, and Christ becomes his wisdom, his righteousness, his sanctification, and his redemption. Remember that working with Christ as your personal Saviour is your strength and your victory. This is the part all are to act. To those who do this comes the assurance, “As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God.” [John 1:12] Christ is “the Way, the Truth, and the Life.” [John 14:6] He declares, “Without me ye can do nothing.” [John 15:5] And the repenting, soul responds, “I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me.” [Philippians 4:13]”—*Bible Training School, January 1st, 1904*

2. How do we show that we are children of our Father in heaven?

➤ **Matthew 5:44–45** —

➤ **Matthew 12:49-50** —

NOTES : “The children of God should represent the spirit that rules in Heaven. Their principles of action should not be of the same character with the narrow, selfish spirit of the world.” —*Spirit of Prophecy Volume 2, page 224*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Monday, June 2nd, 2025

[Ezekiel 36:26]

↪ ²⁶ A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

[Matthew 5:44-45]

↪ ⁴⁴ But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

⁴⁵ That you may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for He makes His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

[Matthew 12:49-50]

↪ ⁴⁹ And He stretched forth His hand toward His disciples, and said, Behold My mother and My brethren!

⁵⁰ For whosoever shall do the will of My Father which is in heaven, the same is My brother, sister, and mother.

[John 1:12]

↪ ¹² But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on His name:

[John 14:6]

↪ ⁶ Jesus said to him, I am The Way, The Truth and The Life: no man cometh to The Father, but by Me.

[John 15:5]

↪ ⁵ I am the vine, you *are* the branches: He that abides in Me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: for without Me you can do nothing.

[1 Corinthians 3:9]

↪ ⁹ For we are labourers together with God: you are God's husbandry, *you are* God's building.

[Philippians 2:12-13]

↪ ¹² Wherefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

¹³ For it is God which works in you both to will and to do of *His* good pleasure.

[Philippians 4:13]

↪ ¹³ I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, June 2nd, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 160

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 2nd

The Battle for a Spiritual Mind

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

Romans 8:6, 7

The natural mind leans toward pleasure and self-gratification. It is Satan’s policy to manufacture an abundance of this. He seeks to fill the minds of men with a desire for worldly amusement, that they may have no time to ask themselves the question, How is it with my soul? The love of pleasure is infectious. Given up to this, the mind hurries from one point to another, ever seeking for some amusement. Obedience to the law of God counteracts this inclination and builds barriers against ungodliness....

The ability to enjoy the riches of glory will be developed in proportion to the desire we have for these riches. How shall an appreciation of God and heavenly things be developed unless it is in this life? If the claims and cares of the world are allowed to engross all our time and attention, our spiritual powers weaken and die for lack of exercise. In a mind wholly given up to earthly things every inlet through which light from heaven may enter is closed. God’s transforming grace cannot be felt on mind or character.

We are living amid the perils of the last days, and we should guard every avenue by which Satan can approach us with his temptation.... A mere assent to the truth will never save a soul from death. We must be sanctified through the truth; every defect of character must be overcome, or it will overcome us and become a controlling power for evil. Commence without a moment’s delay to root out every pernicious weed from the garden of the heart; and through the grace of Christ allow no plants to flourish there but such as will bear fruit unto eternal life.

Cultivate whatever in your character is in harmony with the character of Christ. Cherish those things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely and of good report; but put away whatever is unlike our Redeemer.... Every soul that gains eternal life must be like Christ, *“holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners.”* [Hebrews 7:26]

Daily Scripture

Monday, June 2nd, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 96

Worship in the Splendour of Holiness

- Psa 96:1 O sing unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth.
- Psa 96:2 Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day.
- Psa 96:3 Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.
- Psa 96:4 For the LORD *is* great, and greatly to be praised: he *is* to be feared above all gods.
- Psa 96:5 For all the gods of the nations *are* idols: but the LORD made the heavens.
- Psa 96:6 Honour and majesty *are* before him: strength and beauty *are* in his sanctuary.
- Psa 96:7 Give unto the LORD, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength.
- Psa 96:8 Give unto the LORD the glory *due unto* his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts.
- Psa 96:9 O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.
- Psa 96:10 Say among the heathen *that* the LORD reigns: the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: he shall judge the people righteously.
- Psa 96:11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and the fullness thereof.
- Psa 96:12 Let the field be joyful, and all that *is* therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice
- Psa 96:13 Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.

Tuesday – June 3rd

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 27:10; Proverbs 3:12; Matthew 7:7; Luke 11:13; Hebrews 12:6-7;

1. How does the Father manifest His love for His children?

➤ **Proverbs 3:12** —

➤ **Hebrews 12:6-7** —

NOTES : “The Lord permits trials to come upon us in order that we may make earnest, heart-felt intercession. Trial brings us to God, and leads us to form a closer connection with Christ our Saviour. Trial forces us to do as the word of God directs. We put into practice the command, “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.” [Matthew 7:7] Do we believe these words, that are full of divine efficiency? The Lord says, “If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?” [Luke 11:13] Our sufficiency in every time of need is found in the promise of God.” —*Signs of the Times, August 20th, 1896*

2. How does God respond to those who have been cast out by parents?

➤ **Psalm 27:10** —

NOTES : “He promises to be a Father unto you. Oh, what a relationship is this! Higher and holier than any earthly tie. If you make the sacrifice, if you have to forsake father, mother, sisters, brothers, wife, and children for Christ's sake, you will not be friendless. God adopts you into His family; you become members of the royal household, sons and daughters of the King who rules in the heaven of heavens. Can you desire a more exalted position than is here promised? Is not this enough?” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 1, page 510*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, June 3rd, 2025

[Psalms 27:10]

↪ ¹⁰ When my father and my mother forsake me, then The LORD will take me up.

[Proverbs 3:12]

↪ ¹² For whom The LORD loves He corrects; even as a father the son *in whom* he delights.

[Matthew 7:7]

↪ ⁷ Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you:

[Luke 11:13]

↪ ¹³ If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children: how much more shall *your* heavenly Father give The Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?

[Hebrews 12:6-7]

↪ ⁶ For whom The Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.

⁷ If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chastens not?

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, June 3rd, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 161

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 3rd

Will Your Thoughts Bear Inspection?

The Lord searches all hearts, and understands all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.

1 Chronicles 28:9

You must give an account to God of your thoughts, of your words, of your time, and of your actions....

You can never enter heaven unless you enjoy the communion of God here below, for this is our fitting-up place for heaven. God should be the object of the soul’s highest reverence, love, and fear. This world is the only school in which you can receive a preparation for the higher grade. Those who do not love to retain God in their thoughts in this world, those who consider it irksome to be in subjection to God in this life, will never have enjoyment with Christ in the future life. The very things they choose and love here in self-pleasing are educating their tastes so that heavenly discipline will be a restraint. Let your soul be brought under discipline to God....

He who created man, who paid such a price for his redemption, is greatly dishonoured when man chooses a low, earthly level, a life of frivolity and cheapness.... All who are content to turn away from that knowledge which will make them wise unto salvation in this life and the future, who accept of earthly, frivolous things, are feeding their souls upon brackish water when Jesus Christ invites them, *“If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink.”* [John 7:37]

Let your soul be absorbed in meditating upon the glorious truths contained in the Word of God, and you will have no constant craving for something which you have not. You will despise cheap, vain thoughts. You will be ever trying to meet the elevated standard of virtue and holiness which is kept before you in the gospel. You will seek for higher attainments in the divine life. Converse with God through the medium of His Word.

By contemplating the lofty ideal He has placed before you, you will be uplifted into a pure and holy atmosphere, even the presence of God. When you abide here, there goes forth from you a light which irradiates all who are connected with you.

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, June 3rd, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 97

The Lord Reigns

- Psa 97:1 The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad *thereof*.
- Psa 97:2 Clouds and darkness *are* round about him: righteousness and judgment *are* the habitation of his throne.
- Psa 97:3 A fire goes before him, and burns up his enemies round about.
- Psa 97:4 His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled.
- Psa 97:5 The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
- Psa 97:6 The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.
- Psa 97:7 Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all *ye* gods.
- Psa 97:8 Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O LORD.
- Psa 97:9 For thou, LORD, *art* high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods.
- Psa 97:10 Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserves the souls of his saints; he delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.
- Psa 97:11 Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart.
- Psa 97:12 Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

Wednesday – June 4th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 68:5–6; Matthew 6:33; Matthew 10:29-30; Matthew 18:10; Matthew 18:14; Mark 10:28–30; 1 Timothy 4:8;

1. What promise does the Lord make to those who have been left alone through following Him?

➤ **Mark 10:28–30** —

➤ **Psalm 68:5–6** —

NOTES : “Jesus knows all your wants, and He has left exceeding broad and precious promises. He says: “There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake and the gospel's, but he shall receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions, and in the world to come eternal life.” [Matthew 10:29-30] “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” [Matthew 6:33] “Godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.” [1 Timothy 4:8] These are precious promises. Can you not rely upon them? Can you not have implicit trust, knowing that He is faithful who has promised? Let your trembling faith grasp the promises of God. Bear your whole weight upon them with unwavering faith; for they will not, they cannot fail.” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, May 26th, 1885*

2. What special care does the Father have for children?

➤ **Matthew 18:10** —

➤ **Matthew 18:14** —

NOTES : “Parents, as the birthdays of your children come around year after year, what kind of an education are you giving your little ones? Have you endeavoured to turn their thoughts to God? Have you trained them to look upon God as their heavenly Father from whom comes down every good and perfect gift? Have you informed them that the angels have been ministering unto them all through the years, and that it would be fitting for the little ones to lay up something in store for a thank offering to God? Have you educated them to speak words of thanksgiving and praise, and trained them to send gifts of love flowing back to the bountiful Provider of their food, clothing, reason, life, and above all for the gift of His only begotten Son? Have you trained them that they must love others as God has loved them, and in their sphere deny themselves as Jesus has denied Himself in His sphere?” —*Home Missionary, December 1st, 1894*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, June 4th, 2025

[Psalms 68:5-6]

- ☞ ⁵ A Father of the fatherless, and a Judge of the widows, *is* God in His holy habitation.
⁶ God sets the solitary in families: He brings out those which are bound with chains: but the rebellious dwell in a dry *land*.

[Matthew 6:33]

- ☞ ³³ But seek you first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.

[Matthew 8:14]

- ☞ ¹⁴ And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, He saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever.

[Matthew 10:29-30]

- ☞ ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.
³⁰ But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

[Matthew 18:10]

- ☞ ¹⁰ Take heed that you despise not one of these little ones; for I say to you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of My Father which is in heaven.

[Mark 10:28-30]

- ☞ ²⁸ Then Peter began to say to Him, Lo, we have left all, and have followed You.
²⁹ And Jesus answered and said, Truly I say to you, There is no man that has left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My sake, and the gospel's,
³⁰ But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.

[1 Timothy 4:8]

- ☞ ⁸ For bodily exercise profits little: but godliness is profitable to all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, June 4th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 162

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 4th

Keeping the Heart

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Proverbs 4:23

Why are there so many ... who are spiritual failures, who have unsymmetrical characters? It is because they did not, when they knew the truth, and do not now, begin to practice the truth as it is in Jesus. They do not let Him take away their faulty attributes of character.... He whose conversion is righteous carries righteous principles into all his life practices. He only is well grounded in the faith who lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

There are many who testify daily, I am not changed in character, only in theory.... All may through faith gain a conqueror's crown, but many are not willing to engage in hand to hand warfare with their own imperfect dispositions. They retain attributes which make them offensive to God. Daily they are transgressing the principles of His holy law. If all would only learn the simple lesson that they must take and wear the yoke of Christ and learn of the Great Teacher His meekness and lowliness of heart, they would better fulfill their covenant to love God supremely and their neighbour as themselves.... They must begin at the very beginning. Christ says, Take My yoke of restraint and obedience upon you, and learn of Me.... The heart will then be made right with God, through the creative power of Christ. Partakers of the divine nature, they are transformed....

The renovating, transforming work must begin in the heart, out of which flow the issues of life. Oh, how then can lip service be regarded as sufficient? ... I entreat you, for Christ's sake, do not stop at any halfway place, but press on, press on. Advance to the perfection of Christian attainments. Leave nothing insecure. Watch thyself with all diligence. Remember that you are responsible not to misrepresent Christ in character. Let us not by our defects lead others to practice the same sins....

Those who claim to have advanced light must reveal the influence of that light in their words, their deportment, their voice, their actions, at all times and in all places.

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, June 4th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 98

Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord

- Psa 98:1 **A Psalm.** O sing unto the LORD a new song; for he has done marvellous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, has gotten him the victory.
- Psa 98:2 The LORD has made known his salvation: his righteousness has he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.
- Psa 98:3 He has remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel: all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- Psa 98:4 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.
- Psa 98:5 Sing unto the LORD with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm.
- Psa 98:6 With trumpets and sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the LORD, the King.
- Psa 98:7 Let the sea roar, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.
- Psa 98:8 Let the floods clap *their* hands: let the hills be joyful together
- Psa 98:9 Before the LORD; for he cometh to judge the earth: with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity.

Thursday – June 5th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 6:25–34; Matthew 10:17–20; Matthew 10:29-31;

1. What promises of God's providence can we rely on?

➤ **Matthew 6:25–34** —

➤ **Matthew 10:29-31** —

NOTES : “Much unnecessary care and anxiety is felt in regard to our future, concerning what we shall eat and drink, and wherewithal we shall be clothed. The labour and worry of needless display in apparel causes much fatigue and unhappiness, and shortens our lives. Our Saviour would not only have us discern the love of God displayed in the beautiful flowers about us, but He would have us learn from them lessons of simplicity, and of perfect faith and confidence in our Heavenly Father. If God cares to make these inanimate things so beautiful, that will be cut down and perish in a day, how much more careful will He be to supply the needs of His obedient children, whose lives may be as enduring as eternity. How readily will He give them the adornment of His grace, the strength of wisdom, the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit. The love of God to man is incomprehensible, broad as the world, high as heaven, and as enduring as eternity.” —*Health Reformer, October 1st, 1877*

2. What promise is given to those called to testify to their faith in God?

➤ **Matthew 10:17–20** —

NOTES : “Persecution will spread the light. The servants of Christ will be brought before the great men of the world, who, but for this, might never hear the gospel. The truth has been misrepresented to these men. They have listened to false charges concerning the faith of Christ's disciples. Often their only means of learning its real character is the testimony of those who are brought to trial for their faith. Under examination these are required to answer, and their judges to listen to the testimony borne. God's grace will be dispensed to His servants to meet the emergency. Says Jesus, “*It shall be given you, in that same hour what you shall speak. For it is not you that speaks, but The Spirit of your Father which speaks in you.*” [Matthew 10:19-20] As the Spirit of God illuminates the minds of His servants, the truth will be presented in its divine power and preciousness. Those who reject the truth will stand to accuse and oppress the disciples. But under loss and suffering, even unto death, the Lord's children are to reveal the meekness of their divine Example. Thus will be seen the contrast between Satan's agents and the representatives of Christ. The Saviour will be lifted up before the rulers and the people.” —*The Desire of Ages, page 354*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Thursday, June 5th, 2025

[Matthew 6:25-34]

- ☞ ²⁵ Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?
- ²⁶ Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are ye not much better than they?
- ²⁷ Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?
- ²⁸ And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:
- ²⁹ And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
- ³⁰ Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O ye of little faith?
- ³¹ Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?
- ³² (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knows that ye have need of all these things.
- ³³ But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.
- ³⁴ Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day *is* the evil thereof.

[Matthew 10:16-20]

- ☞ ¹⁶ Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.
- ¹⁷ But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues;
- ¹⁸ And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles.
- ¹⁹ But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak.
- ²⁰ For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaks in you.

[Matthew 10:28-31]

- ☞ ²⁸ And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.
- ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. ³⁰ But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.
- ³¹ Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, June 5th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 163

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 5th

Christ in All Our Thoughts

Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 139:23, 24

Few realize that it is a duty to exercise control over the thoughts and imaginations. It is difficult to keep the undisciplined mind fixed upon profitable subjects. But if the thoughts are not properly employed, religion cannot flourish in the soul. The mind must be preoccupied with sacred and eternal things, or it will cherish trifling and superficial thoughts. Both the intellectual and the moral powers must be disciplined, and they will ... improve by exercise.

In order to understand this matter aright, we must remember that our hearts are naturally depraved, and we are unable of ourselves to pursue a right course. It is only by the grace of God, combined with the most earnest effort on our part, that we can gain the victory. The intellect, as well as the heart, must be consecrated to the service of God. He has claims upon all there is of us.

Few believe that humanity has sunk so low as it has or that it is so thoroughly bad, so desperately opposed to God, as it is.... When the mind is not under the direct influence of the Spirit of God, Satan can mould it as he chooses. All the rational powers which he controls he will carnalize. He is directly opposed to God in his tastes, views, preferences, likes and dislikes, choice of things and pursuits; there is no relish for what God loves or approves, but a delight in those things which He despises....

If Christ is abiding in the heart, He will be in all our thoughts. Our deepest thoughts will be of Him, His love, His purity. He will fill all the chambers of the mind. Our affections will centre about Jesus. All our hopes and expectations will be associated with Him. To live the life we now live by faith in the Son of God, looking forward to and loving His appearing, will be the soul's highest joy. He will be the crown of our rejoicing.

Those who have trained the mind to delight in spiritual exercises are the ones who can be translated and not be overwhelmed with the purity and transcendent glory of heaven.

Daily Scripture

Thursday, June 5th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 99

The Lord Our God Is Holy

- Psa 99:1 The LORD reigns; let the people tremble: he sits *between* the cherubims; let the earth be moved.
- Psa 99:2 The LORD *is* great in Zion; and he *is* high above all the people.
- Psa 99:3 Let them praise thy great and terrible name; *for it is* holy.
- Psa 99:4 The king's strength also loves judgment; thou dost establish equity, thou executes judgment and righteousness in Jacob.
- Psa 99:5 Exalt ye the LORD our God, and worship at his footstool; *for he is* holy.
- Psa 99:6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among them that call upon his name; they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.
- Psa 99:7 He spake unto them in the cloudy pillar: they kept his testimonies, and the ordinance *that* he gave them.
- Psa 99:8 Thou answered them, O LORD our God: thou wast a God that forgave them, though thou took vengeance of their inventions.
- Psa 99:9 Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the LORD our God *is* holy.

Preparation Day – June 6th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Matthew 13:43; John 14:1–3; 1 John 3:2;

1. While the human mind cannot comprehend God's ultimate purpose for His children, of what fact can we be certain?

➤ **1 John 3:2** —

➤ **Matthew 13:43** —

NOTES : “To have fellowship with the Father and His Son Jesus Christ is to be ennobled and elevated, and made a partaker of joys unspeakable and full of glory. Food, clothing, station, and wealth may have their value; but to have a connection with God and to be a partaker of His divine nature is of priceless value. Our lives should be hid with Christ in God; and although “it does not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see him as he is.” [1 John 3:2] The princely dignity of the Christian character will shine forth as the sun, and the beams of light from the face of Christ will be reflected upon those who have purified themselves even as He is pure. The privilege of becoming sons of God is cheaply purchased, even at the sacrifice of everything we possess, be it life itself.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 4, page 357*

2. What precious promise did Jesus leave His disciples?

➤ **John 14:1–3** —

NOTES : “Not only to the disciples, but to us, are these words of comfort spoken. In the last scenes of this earth's history, war will rage. There will be pestilence, plague, and famine. The waters of the deep will overflow their boundaries. Property and life will be destroyed by fire and flood. We should be preparing for the mansions that Christ has gone to prepare for them that love him. There is a rest from earth's conflict. Where is it? “That where I am, there ye may be also.” [John 14:3] Heaven is where Christ is. Heaven would not be heaven to those who love Christ if he were not there. Are we individually forming characters that will be meet for the society of Christ and the heavenly angels?” —*Adventist Review & Herald, October 19th, 1897*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, June 6th, 2025

[Matthew 13:43]

↪ ⁴³ Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who has ears to hear, let him hear.

[John 14:1-3]

↪ ¹ Let not your heart be troubled: you believe in God, believe also in Me.
² In My Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not *so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will *return* again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

[1 John 3:2]

↪ ² Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, June 6th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 164

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 6th

Security in Right Thinking

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:5

Even the thoughts must be brought into subjection to the will of God, and the feelings under the control of reason and religion. Our imagination was not given us to be allowed to run riot and have its own way, without any effort at restraint and discipline. If the thoughts are wrong, the feelings will be wrong; and the thoughts and feelings combined make up the moral character.

The power of right thought is more precious than the golden wedge of Ophir.... We need to place a high value upon the right control of our thoughts, for such control prepares the mind and soul to labour harmoniously for the Master. It is necessary for our peace and happiness in this life that our thoughts centre in Christ. As a man thinks, so is he. Our improvement in moral purity depends on right thinking and right acting.... Evil thoughts destroy the soul. The converting power of God changes the heart, refining and purifying the thoughts. Unless a determined effort is made to keep the thoughts centered on Christ, grace cannot reveal itself in the life. The mind must engage in the spiritual warfare. Every thought must be brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. All the habits must be brought under God's control.

We need a constant sense of the ennobling power of pure thoughts and the damaging influence of evil thoughts. Let us place our thoughts upon holy things. Let them be pure and true, for the only security for any soul is right thinking. We are to use every means that God has placed within our reach for the government and cultivation of our thoughts. We are to bring our minds into harmony with His mind. His truth will sanctify us, body and soul and spirit, and we shall be enabled to rise above temptation.

The control of the thoughts, in cooperation with the Holy Spirit, will give control of the words. This is true wisdom, and will ensure quietness of mind, contentment, and peace. There will be joy in the contemplation of the riches of the grace of God.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, June 6th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 100

His Steadfast Love Endures Forever

- Psa 100:1 **A Psalm of praise.** Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.
- Psa 100:2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.
- Psa 100:3 Know ye that the LORD he *is* God: *it is* he *that* has made us, and not we ourselves; *we are* his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- Psa 100:4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, *and* into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, *and* bless his name.
- Psa 100:5 For the LORD *is* good; his mercy *is* everlasting; and his truth *endures* to all generations.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, June 6th, 2025



Jhon had a busy preaching schedule in Indonesia. A pastor of a Sunday-keeping church in Papua, he had just finished a series of meetings on one island and needed to return home for another series of meetings. He was supposed to fly, but the plane was fully booked. So, he bought a boat ticket for the three-day voyage.

It was a decision that would change his life.

Jhon bought the cheapest ticket on the economy deck, a long hall where scores of passengers slept side-by-side on the floor. While awake, passengers passed the time by chatting.

Jhon chatted with a woman seated nearby. As a kind gesture, Jhon offered her part of one of his meals.

She shook her head as he held out a plastic container of steamed squid seasoned with a sprinkle of oil.

“I’m sorry,” she said. “I don’t eat that kind of food.”

Jhon thought that she didn’t like squid, so he pulled out another container. This one had dog meat that he had bought from a street vendor just before boarding the boat.

But the woman refused it, too. “I don’t eat that kind of food,” she said. Jhon was surprised.

“Why don’t you eat these kinds of food?” he asked.

“It’s because I’m an Adventist,” she said.

The only thing that Jhon knew about Seventh-day Adventists was that he had taught an Adventist student at a mission school where he had worked before becoming a pastor. But he respected the woman’s desire to be faithful to her beliefs. So, he put away the food, and the two talked about other things. He learned that her name was Ingrid.

Now, when Jhon had boarded the ship, he hadn't told anyone that he was a pastor. But Papua is a predominantly Christian island, and Indonesians who live there have a sailing tradition. At some point on a voyage, the ship captain always asks, “Is there a pastor on board? We want to ask you to pray for us and to have a worship service.”

On the last day of Jhon's voyage, the ship captain raised the question. Jhon made known his position and led the passengers in prayer and worship.

Ingrid was surprised to learn that he was a pastor, and she didn't seem certain that she wanted to keep talking to him.

But when the ship docked, Jhon insisted that they exchange phone numbers. When he asked to see her again, she invited him to the Adventist church.

Every Sabbath for the next month, Jhon attended worship services with her.

Then something unusual happened. He began to feel uncomfortable worshipping on Sunday. He felt so uncomfortable that when he was asked to preach at his church, he made excuses about needing to go somewhere else.

When he told his church that he intended to become an Adventist, he was offered a higher position with a higher salary.

But he wasn't tempted. In his personal study of the Bible, he had grown convinced that the seventh-day Sabbath was God's true day of worship. He also had accepted the biblical prohibition on unclean meat like squid and dogs.

Three years after the boat trip, Jhon and Ingrid got married.

Today, Jhon is wrapping up his studies as a theology student at Klabat University on Sulawesi island. He is glad that Ingrid rejected his food. Through her witness, he ended up learning about the seventh-day Sabbath.

He is looking forward to returning home to Papua and teaching others about the Lord of the Sabbath.

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help spread the gospel on Jhon's home island of Papua. The funds will go toward the construction of classrooms, an administrative building, a library, and an auditorium for Papua Adventist Theology College in Nabire, Papua. Incidentally, Klabat University, where Jhon is studying, on Sulawesi island, received part of a 1981 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. Thank you for planning a generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering on June 28 to continue to support the proclamation of the gospel in Indonesia.

By Andrew McChesney

LESSON 11

“THE LORD OF HOSTS”

June 7 — June 13

MEMORY VERSE : “O LORD of hosts, blessed is the man that trusts in You.” [Psalm 84:12]

STUDY HELP : ✓ The Ministry of Healing, pages 409–426

INTRODUCTION : “Oh, that we could all realise the nearness of heaven to earth! When the earthborn children know it not, they have angels of light as their companions. A silent witness guards every soul that lives, seeking to draw that soul to Christ. As long as there is hope, until men resist the Holy Spirit to their eternal ruin, they are guarded by heavenly intelligences. Let us all bear in mind that in every assembly of the saints below are angels of God, listening to the testimonies, songs, and prayers. Let us remember that our praises are supplemented by the choirs of the angelic host above.”—*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 6, page 367*

Sabbath – June 7th

LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 103:19-21; Isaiah 6:1–3; Ezekiel 1:14; Daniel 7:9–10; Hebrews 12:22; Revelation 5:11–12;

1. How did the prophets picture the angels around God's throne?

- Isaiah 6:1–3 —
- Daniel 7:9–10 —
- Revelation 5:11–12 —

NOTE : “The seraphim around the throne are so filled with reverential awe as they behold the glory of God, that they do not for an instant look upon themselves with admiration. Their praise is for the Lord of hosts. As they look into the future, when the whole earth shall be filled with His glory, the triumphant song is echoed from one to another in melodious chant, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts.” [Isaiah 6:3] They are fully satisfied to glorify God; abiding in His presence, beneath His smile of approbation, they wish for nothing more. In bearing His image, in doing His bidding, in worshipping Him, their highest ambition is reached.”—*Gospel Workers, page 21*

“We are informed in Scripture as to the number, and the power and glory, of the heavenly beings, of their connection with the government of God, and also of their relation to the work of redemption. “The Lord hath prepared His throne in the heavens; and His kingdom rules over all.” [Psalm 103:19] And, says the prophet, “I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne.” [Revelation 5:11] In the presence chamber of the King of kings they wait, “angels, that excel in strength,” [Psalm 103:20] “ministers of His, that do His pleasure,” [Psalm 103:21] “hearkening unto the voice of His word.” [Psalm 103:20] “Ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands” [Revelation 5:11] were the heavenly messengers beheld by the prophet Daniel. The apostle Paul declared them “an innumerable company.”

[Hebrews 12:22] As God's messengers they go forth, like “the appearance of a flash of lightning,” [Ezekiel 1:14], so dazzling their glory, and so swift their flight.”—*The Great Controversy*, page 511

2. Heaven’s Hotline:



Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, June 7th, 2025

[Psalms 103:19-21]

- ☞ ¹⁹ The LORD has prepared His throne in the heavens; and His kingdom rules over all.
- ☞ ²⁰ Bless The LORD, you His angels, that excel in strength, that do His commandments, hearkening to the voice of His Word.
- ☞ ²¹ Bless you The LORD, all *you* His hosts; *you* ministers of His, that do His pleasure.

[Isaiah 6:1-3]

- ☞ ¹ In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also The Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and His train filled the temple.
- ☞ ² Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.
- ☞ ³ And one cried to another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* The LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of His glory.

[Ezekiel 1:14]

- ☞ ¹⁴ And the living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning.

[Daniel 7:9-10]

- ☞ ⁹ I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and The Ancient of days did sit, whose garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of His head like the pure wool: His throne *was like* the fiery flame, *and* His wheels *as* burning fire.
- ☞ ¹⁰ A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him: thousand thousands ministered to Him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

[Hebrews 12:22]

- ☞ ²² But you are come unto Mount Sion, and to the city of The Living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

[Revelation 5:11-12]

- ☞ ¹¹ And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;
- ☞ ¹² Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is The Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

E. G. W. Study Help

Sabbath, June 7th, 2025

The Ministry of Healing

Chapter 35, pp. 409-426

“A True Knowledge of God”

Like our Saviour, we are in this world to do service for God. We are here to become like God in character, and by a life of service to reveal Him to the world. In order to be co-workers with God, in order to become like Him and to reveal His character, we must know Him aright. We must know Him as He reveals Himself.

A knowledge of God is the foundation of all true education and of all true service. It is the only real safeguard against temptation. It is this alone that can make us like God in character.

This is the knowledge needed by all who are working for the uplifting of their fellow men. Transformation of character, purity of life, efficiency in service, adherence to correct principles, all depend upon a right knowledge of God. This knowledge is the essential preparation both for this life and for the life to come.

"The knowledge of the Holy is understanding." Proverbs 9:10.

Through a knowledge of Him are given unto us "all things that pertain unto life and godliness." 2 Peter 1:3.

"This is life eternal," said Jesus, "that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent." John 17:3.

"Thus said the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Neither let the mighty man glory in his might, Let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the Lord which exercise loving-kindness, Judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: For in these things I delight, said the Lord." Jeremiah 9:23, 24.

We need to study the revelations of Himself that God has given. "Acquaint now thyself with Him, And be at peace: Thereby good shall come unto thee. Receive, I pray thee, the law from His mouth, And lay up His words in thy heart. . . . And the Almighty will be thy treasure. . . ."Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Almighty, And shalt lift up thy face unto God. Thou shalt make thy prayer unto Him, And He will hear thee; And thou shalt pay thy vows. Thou shalt also decree a thing, And it shall be established unto thee; And light shall shine upon thy ways. When they cast thee down, thou shalt say, There is lifting up; And the humble person He will save." Job 22:21-29, A.R.V.

"The invisible things of Him since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, even His everlasting power and divinity." Romans 1:20, A.R.V.

The things of nature that we now behold give us but a faint conception of Eden's glory. Sin has marred earth's beauty; on all things may be seen traces of the work of evil. Yet much that is beautiful remains. Nature testifies that One infinite in power, great in goodness, mercy, and love, created the earth, and filled it with life and gladness. Even in their blighted state, all things reveal the handiwork of the great Master Artist. Wherever we turn, we may hear the voice of God, and see evidences of His goodness.

From the solemn roll of the deep-toned thunder and old ocean's ceaseless roar, to the glad songs that make the forests vocal with melody, nature's ten thousand voices speak His praise. In earth and sea and sky, with their marvellous tint and colour, varying in gorgeous contrast or blended in harmony, we behold His glory. The everlasting hills tell us of His power. The trees that wave their green banners in the sunlight, and the flowers in their delicate beauty, point to their Creator. The living green that carpets the brown earth tells of God's care for the humblest of His creatures. The caves of the sea and the depths of the earth reveal His treasures. He who placed the pearls in the ocean and the amethyst and chrysolite among the rocks, is a lover of the beautiful. The sun rising in the heavens is a representative of Him who is the life and light of all that He has made. All the brightness and beauty that adorn the earth and light up the heavens, speak of God.

"His glory covered the heavens." "The earth is full of Thy riches." "Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night shows knowledge. There is no speech nor language, Without these their voice is heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world." Habakkuk 3:3; Psalm 104:24; 19:2-4, margin.

All things tell of His tender, fatherly care and of His desire to make His children happy.

The mighty power that works through all nature and sustains all things is not, as some men of science represent, merely an all-pervading principle, an actuating energy. God is a Spirit; yet He is a personal Being; for so He has revealed Himself: "The Lord is the true God, He is the living God, and an everlasting King: . . . The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth,

Even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens." "The portion of Jacob is not like them: For He is the former of all things." "He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, And has stretched out the heavens by His discretion." Jeremiah 10:10, 11, 16, 12.

Nature Is Not God

God's handiwork in nature is not God Himself in nature. The things of nature are an expression of God's character and power; but we are not to regard nature as God. The artistic skill of human beings produces very beautiful workmanship, things that delight the eye, and these things reveal to us something of the thought of the designer; but the thing made is not the maker. It is not the work, but the workman, that is counted worthy of honour. So while nature is an expression of God's thought, it is not nature, but the God of nature, that is to be exalted.

"Let us worship and bow down: Let us kneel before the Lord." "In His hand are the deep places of the earth; The heights of the mountains are His also. The sea is His, and He made it; And His hands formed the dry land." Psalm 95:6; 95:4, 5, A.R.V.

"Seek Him that makes the Pleiades and Orion, And turneth the shadow of death into the morning, And makes the day dark with night;" "He that forms the mountains, and creates the wind, And declares unto man what is His thought;" "He that builds His spheres in the heaven, And has founded His arch [Noyes's translation] in the earth;" "He that calls for the waters of the sea, And pours them out upon the face of the earth; Jehovah is His name." Amos 5:8, A.R.V.; 4:13, A.R.V.; 9:6, margin; 9:6, A.R.V.

The Creation of the Earth

The work of creation cannot be explained by science. What science can explain the mystery of life?

"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." Hebrews 11:3.

"I form the light, and create darkness: . . . I the Lord do all these things. . . . I have made the earth, And created man upon it: I, even My hands, have stretched out the heavens, And all their host have I commanded." "When I call unto them, they stand up together." Isaiah 45:7-12; 48:13.

In the creation of the earth, God was not indebted to pre-existing matter. "He spake, and it was; . . . He commanded, and it stood fast." Psalm 33:9. All things, material or spiritual, stood up before the Lord Jehovah at His voice and were created for His own purpose. The heavens and all the host of them, the earth and all things therein, came into existence by the breath of His mouth.

In the creation of man was manifest the agency of a personal God. When God had made man in His image, the human form was perfect in all its arrangements, but it was without life. Then a personal, self-existing God breathed into that form the breath of life, and man became a living, intelligent being. All parts of the human organism were set in action. The heart, the arteries, the veins, the tongue, the hands, the feet, the senses, the faculties of the mind, all began their work, and all were placed under law. Man became a living soul. Through Christ the Word, a personal God created man and endowed him with intelligence and power.

Our substance was not hid from Him when we were made in secret; His eyes saw our substance, yet being imperfect, and in His book all our members were written when as yet there were none of them.

Above all lower orders of being, God designed that man, the crowning work of His creation, should express His thought and reveal His glory. But man is not to exalt himself as God.

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord. . . . Serve the Lord with gladness: Come before His presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord He is God: It is He that has made us, and His we are; We are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise: Be thankful unto Him, and bless His name." "Exalt the Lord our God, And worship at His holy hill; For the Lord our God is holy." Psalm 100:1-4, margin; 99:9.

God is constantly employed in upholding and using as His servants the things that He has made. He works through the laws of nature, using them as His instruments. They are not self-acting. Nature in her work testifies of the intelligent presence and active agency of a Being who moves in all things according to His will.

"Forever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven. Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: Thou hast established the earth, and it abides. They continue this day according to Thine ordinances: For all are Thy servants." "Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that did He In heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places." "He commanded, and they were created. He has also established them for ever and ever: He has made a decree which shall not pass." Psalm 119:89-91; 135:6; 148:5, 6.

It is not by inherent power that year by year the earth yields its bounties and continues its march around the sun. The hand of the Infinite One is perpetually at work guiding this planet. It is God's power continually exercised that keeps the earth in position in its rotation. It is God who causes the sun to rise in the heavens. He opens the windows of heaven and gives rain.

"He giveth snow like wool: He scatters the hoarfrost like ashes." "When He utters His voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens, And He causes the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightnings with rain, And brings forth the wind out of His treasures." Psalm 147:16; Jeremiah 10:13.

It is by His power that vegetation is caused to flourish, that every leaf appears, every flower blooms, every fruit develops.

The mechanism of the human body cannot be fully understood; it presents mysteries that baffle the most intelligent. It is not as the result of a mechanism, which, once set in motion, continues its work, that the pulse beats and breath follows breath. In God we live and move and have our being. The beating heart, the throbbing pulse, every nerve and muscle in the living organism, is kept in order and activity by the power of an ever-present God.

The Bible shows us God in His high and holy place, not in a state of inactivity, not in silence and solitude, but surrounded by ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of holy beings, all waiting to do His will. Through these messengers He is in active communication with every part of His dominion. By His Spirit He is everywhere present. Through the agency of His Spirit and His angels He ministers to the children of men.

Above the distractions of the earth He sits enthroned; all things are open to His divine survey; and from His great and calm eternity He orders that which His providence sees best.

"The way of man is not in himself: It is not in man that walks to direct his steps." "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart. . . . In all thy ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct thy paths." "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." "How precious is Thy loving-kindness, O God! . . . The children of men take refuge under the shadow of Thy wings." "Happy is he that has the God of Jacob for his help, Whose hope is in the Lord his God." "The earth, O Jehovah, is full of Thy loving-kindness." Thou loves "righteousness and justice." Thou "art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, And of them that are afar off upon the sea: Who by His strength sets fast the mountains, Being girded about with might; Who stills the roaring of the seas, . . . And the tumult of the peoples."

"Thou makes the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice." "Thou crowns the year with Thy goodness; And Thy paths drop fatness."

"The Lord upholds all that fall, And raises up all those that be bowed down. The eyes of all wait upon Thee; And Thou gives them their meat in due season. Thou opens Thine hand, And satisfies the desire of every living

thing." Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 3:5, 6; Psalm 33:18, 19; 36:7, A.R.V.; 146:5; 119:64, A.R.V.; 33:5, A.R.V.; 65:5-7, A.R.V.; 65:8, 11; 145:14-16. {MH 417.3}

Personality of God Revealed in Christ

As a personal being, God has revealed Himself in His Son. The outshining of the Father's glory, "and the express image of His person," Jesus, as a personal Saviour, came to the world. As a personal Saviour He ascended on high. As a personal Saviour He intercedes in the heavenly courts. Before the throne of God in our behalf ministers "One like unto the Son of man." Hebrews 1:3; Revelation 1:13.

Christ, the Light of the world, veiled the dazzling splendour of His divinity and came to live as a man among men, that they might, without being consumed, become acquainted with their Creator. Since sin brought separation between man and his Maker, no man has seen God at any time, except as He is manifested through Christ.

"I and My Father are one," Christ declared. "No man knows the Son, but the Father; neither knows any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal Him." John 10:30; Matthew 11:27.

Christ came to teach human beings what God desires them to know. In the heavens above, in the earth, in the broad waters of the ocean, we see the handiwork of God. All created things testify to His power, His wisdom, His love. Yet not from the stars or the ocean or the cataract can we learn of the personality of God as it was revealed in Christ.

God saw that a clearer revelation than nature was needed to portray both His personality and His character. He sent His Son into the world to manifest, so far as could be endured by human sight, the nature and the attributes of the invisible God.

Revealed to the Disciples

Let us study the words that Christ spoke in the upper chamber on the night before His crucifixion. He was nearing His hour of trial, and He sought to comfort His disciples, who were to be so severely tempted and tried.

"Let not your heart be troubled," He said. "Ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. . .

"Thomas said unto Him, Lord, we know not whither Thou goes; and how can we know the way? Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me. If ye had known Me, ye should have known My Father also: and from henceforth ye know Him, and have seen Him. . . .

"Lord, show us the Father," said Philip, "and it suffices us. Jesus said unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known Me, Philip? he that has seen Me has seen the Father; and how say thou then, Show us the Father? Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of Myself: but the Father that dwells in Me, He doeth the works." John 14:1-10.

The disciples did not yet understand Christ's words concerning His relation to God. Much of His teaching was still dark to them. Christ desired them to have a clearer, more distinct knowledge of God.

"These things have I spoken unto you in parables," He said; "but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in parables, but I shall show you plainly of the Father." John 16:25, margin.

When, on the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples, they understood more fully the truths that Christ had spoken in parables. Much of the teaching that had been a mystery to them was made clear. But not even then did the disciples receive the complete fulfillment of Christ's promise. They received all the knowledge of God that they could bear, but the complete fulfillment of the promise that Christ would show them plainly of the Father was yet to come. Thus it is today. Our knowledge of God is partial and imperfect. When the conflict is ended, and the Man Christ Jesus acknowledges before the Father His faithful workers, who in a world of sin have borne true witness for Him, they will understand clearly what now are mysteries to them.

Christ took with Him to the heavenly courts His glorified humanity. To those who receive Him He gives power to become the sons of God, that at last God may receive them as His, to dwell with Him throughout eternity. If during this life they are loyal to God, they will at last "see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads." Revelation 22:4. And what is the happiness of heaven but to see God? What greater joy could come to the sinner saved by the grace of Christ than to look upon the face of God and know Him as Father?

The Scriptures clearly indicate the relation between God and Christ, and they bring to view as clearly the personality and individuality of each.

"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken unto us by His Son; . . . who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; being made so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said He at any time.

"Thou art My Son, This day have I begotten Thee? And again, I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son?" Hebrews 1:1-5

The personality of the Father and the Son, also the unity that exists between Them, are presented in the seventeenth chapter of John, in the prayer of Christ for His disciples:

"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word; that they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in Us: that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me." John 17:20, 21.

The unity that exists between Christ and His disciples does not destroy the personality of either. They are one in purpose, in mind, in character, but not in person. It is thus that God and Christ are one.

Character of God Revealed in Christ

Taking humanity upon Him, Christ came to be one with humanity, and at the same time to reveal our heavenly Father to sinful human beings. He who had been in the presence of the Father from the beginning, He who was the express image of the invisible God, was alone able to reveal the character of the Deity to mankind. He was in all things made like unto His brethren. He became flesh even as we are. He was hungry and thirsty and weary. He was sustained by food and refreshed by sleep. He shared the lot of men; yet He was the blameless Son of God. He was a stranger and sojourner on the earth--in the world, but not of the world; tempted and tried as men and women today are tempted and tried, yet living a life free from sin. Tender, compassionate, sympathetic, ever considerate of others, He represented the character of God, and was constantly engaged in service for God and man.

"Jehovah has anointed Me," He said, "To preach good tidings unto the poor; He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives," "And recovering of sight to the blind;" "To proclaim the year of Jehovah's favour; . . . To comfort all that mourn." Isaiah 61:1, A.R.V., margin; Luke 4:18; Isaiah 61:2, A.R.V.

"Love your enemies," He bids us; "bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven;" "for He is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil." "He makes His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." Matthew 5:44, 45; Luke 6:35; Matthew 5:45; Luke 6:36.

"Through the tender mercy of our God; . . . The Dayspring from on high has visited us, To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, To guide our feet into the way of peace." Luke 1:78, 79.

The Glory of the Cross

The revelation of God's love to man centres in the cross. Its full significance tongue cannot utter, pen cannot portray, the mind of man cannot comprehend. Looking upon the cross of Calvary, we can only say, "God so loved

the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

Christ crucified for our sins, Christ risen from the dead, Christ ascended on high, is the science of salvation that we are to learn and to teach.

It Was Christ

"Who, existing in the form of God, counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient even unto death, yea, the death of the cross." Philippians 2:6-8, A.R.V.

"It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God." "Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever lives to make intercession for them." Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25.

"We have not a high priest that cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but One that has been in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4:15, A.R.V.

It is through the gift of Christ that we receive every blessing. Through that gift there comes to us day by day the unfailing flow of Jehovah's goodness. Every flower, with its delicate tints and its fragrance, is given for our enjoyment through that one Gift. The sun and the moon were made by Him. There is not a star which beautifies the heavens that He did not make. Every drop of rain that falls, every ray of light shed upon our unthankful world, testifies to the love of God in Christ. Everything is supplied to us through the one unspeakable Gift, God's only-begotten Son. He was nailed to the cross that all these bounties might flow to God's workmanship.

"Behold, what manner of love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God." 1 John 3:1.

"Men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, Neither has the eye seen a God besides Thee, Who works for him that waits for Him." [Isaiah 64:4, A.R.V.]

The Knowledge That Works Transformation

The knowledge of God as revealed in Christ is the knowledge that all who are saved must have. It is the knowledge that works transformation of character. This knowledge, received, will re-create the soul in the image of God. It will impart to the whole being a spiritual power that is divine.

"We all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory." 2 Corinthians 3:18.

Of His own life the Saviour said, "I have kept My Father's commandments." John 15:10. "The Father has not left Me alone; for I do always those things that please Him." John 8:29. As Jesus was in human nature, so God means His followers to be. In His strength we are to live the life of purity and nobility which the Saviour lived.

"For this cause," Paul says, "I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passes knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God." Ephesians 3:14-19.

We "do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every

good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness." Colossians 1:9-11.

This is the knowledge which God is inviting us to receive, and beside which all else is vanity and nothingness.

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, June 7th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 165

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 7th

In Harmony With God’s Mind

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

James 4:8

Angels of God are drawn toward all who in their thoughts and devoted service draw nigh to God.... It is a great misfortune to be double-minded. “*A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.*” [James 1:8].... Let us use to a purpose the mind the Lord has given us. Ambition, covetousness, the mania to follow the fashions, the customs, and practices of the world in order not to be thought singular, will soon obliterate all lines of distinction between the Christian’s lines of pursuit and the practices of the world.

The love of pleasure is not to be cherished and indulged. When the human being, formed to do service for God, finds his time absorbed with plans that the Lord has nought to do with, he may well inquire, What end do I have in view? Whose service do I really enjoy? What does this eager strife for distinction amount to?

As stewards over the Lord’s property, we are to keep the temple of the soul cleansed from all the rubbish and defilement of the world.... All our talents are to be used, every thought is to be enlisted, every power to be put forth to bring us into harmony with the mind of God. We are to adorn ourselves with all the graces of the Spirit, emulating all that is upright and pure and elevating and ennobling, copying the excellencies, and embodying the perfections of the heavenly family, obtaining an education that will fit us to unite with the royal family in the courts of heaven.

We have the privilege of being trained under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. All the attributes that are excellent are to strengthen our moral powers, that they may have no mist or tarnish upon them. We are weaving our threads in the web of humanity; not a thread of self-glory must be woven into the fabric. All heaven is imparting its help that we may surmount every obstacle.... We are to build characters of a goodly fabric, spiritual, heavenly, perfect. God bids us work for time and for eternity that we may grow after the divine likeness.

Daily Scripture

Sabbath, June 7th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 101

I Will Walk with Integrity

- Psa 101:1 **A Psalm of David.** I will sing of mercy and judgment: unto thee, O LORD, will I sing.
- Psa 101:2 I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.
- Psa 101:3 I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; *it* shall not cleave to me.
- Psa 101:4 A froward heart shall depart from me: I will not know a wicked *person*.
- Psa 101:5 Whoso privily slanders his neighbour, him will I cut off: him that has an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer.
- Psa 101:6 Mine eyes *shall be* upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walks in a perfect way, he shall serve me.
- Psa 101:7 He that works deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that tells lies shall not tarry in my sight.
- Psa 101:8 I will early destroy all the wicked of the land; that I may cut off all wicked doers from the city of the LORD.



Hannah loved her twin brothers, Zechy [ZAK-i] and Jerry, but they could be so annoying. As their older sister, she felt like she needed to make sure that they controlled themselves and were well-behaved.

So, she spoke up at lunch when the boys loaded their plates with food.

“Save some for Mommy and Daddy,” she said.

“It’s fine,” Zechy said, without putting back any food.

“Mommy and Daddy already ate,” Jerry chimed in.

But it seemed to Hannah that the boy had taken too much food, and she wanted them to put some back.

“No, they haven’t eaten yet,” Hannah insisted, her voice rising. “Save some for them.”

“Really, it’s fine,” Zechy declared, his voice also rising.

Overhearing the growing disagreement, Daddy and Mommy sought to restore calm.

“It’s fine,” Daddy said.

“Let the boys eat,” Mommy said.

But that wasn’t all that Hannah found annoying. The twins also liked to go into her bedroom and play with her toys. She was alarmed one day when they took her teddy bear and began to play-fight with it. She worried that they might accidentally tear it apart. She grabbed the teddy bear. “Play with your own things,” she whispered, fiercely.

She whispered because she didn’t want to disturb Daddy and Mommy. The family was living in an apartment on the campus of the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies in the Philippines. Daddy was in another room, studying to become a missionary, and Mommy was working.

The twins weren't bothered that Hannah had taken the teddy bear. They found another teddy bear in her room and started to play-fight. “Stop!” Hannah whispered. “Take your own things to play-fight with.”

And so, it went on and on and on. It was so annoying. Hannah didn't know what to do.

Then Hannah and her family went to the week of spiritual emphasis at the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies. Hannah listened carefully to the speaker. Her heart was touched as she heard about Jesus' great love. When the speaker asked who would like to give their hearts to Jesus and be baptized, she looked up at her parents.

“Daddy and Mommy, should I go?” she whispered.

Daddy and Mommy saw that Hannah loved Jesus very much. They saw that the Holy Spirit was speaking to her heart. They nodded their heads that she could go. Hannah made her way to the front. Zechy and Jerry joined her, as did other children.

The church pastor prayed a special prayer for the children and invited them to study the Bible with him. Then, on a bright, happy Sabbath, Hannah and her brothers gave their hearts to Jesus in baptism.

Something happened after her baptism. Hannah began to wake up 30 minutes earlier to have her own morning worship. As she read, she felt that God was really with her. She liked being with God, and she prayed. “Dear Heavenly Father,” she whispered. “Thank You for this day. Please help me to understand this devotional. Help me to understand what I hear today. Please bless my parents and brothers.”

As Hannah prayed, things began to change at home. She found that the things that once annoyed her were no longer annoying. She was no longer annoyed by anything, and she only had kind things to say to her brothers.

Today, Hannah is happy all the time, and she is sure that God is making her heart to be like His.

“God is changing my heart,” she said.

Your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help children in the Southern Asia-Pacific Division, which includes the Philippines, learn about the God who changes hearts to be like His. Thank you for planning a generous offering on June 28.

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – June 8th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Isaiah 6:3; Isaiah 14:12–14; Daniel 10:13; Daniel 10:21; Daniel 12:1; Mark 13:27; John 1:1–3; John 10:30; John 14:9; Philippians 2:5–7; 1 Peter 1:10; Jude 9; Revelation 4:8; Revelation 5:12-13; Revelation 7:11–12; Revelation 12:7-9;

1. What songs do the angels sing?

- **Revelation 4:8** —
- **Revelation 5:12** —
- **Isaiah 6:3** —
- **Revelation 7:11–12** —

NOTES : “With the deepest adoration and joy, the hosts of angels bow before him, while the glad shout rings through the courts of heaven: “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing!” [Revelation 5:12] Songs of triumph mingle with music from angelic harps, till heaven seems to overflow with delightful harmony and inconceivable joy and praise. The Son of God has triumphed over the prince of darkness, and conquered death and the grave. Heaven rings with voices in lofty strains proclaiming: “Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power be unto Him that sits upon the throne, and unto The Lamb forever and ever!” [Revelation 5:13]” *Bible Echo, August 1st, 1887*

2. Who is the Archangel, the Leader of the heavenly host? Compare the following verses:

- **Revelation 12:7** —
- **Mark 13:27** —

NOTES : “The word 'Archangel' is composed of two Greek words, 'archon' meaning 'ruler,' and 'angelos' meaning 'messenger', one who has been sent. The Bible never speaks of 'archangels', only of 'the Archangel' and the Archangel is called Michael in Jude 9. Elsewhere Michael is described as the Leader of the angels, [Revelation 12:7] and the First of the princes, [Daniel 10:13, marginal reading] In Daniel 12:1, He is described as 'the great Prince that stands for the children of thy people.' [See also Daniel 10: 21] His name is commonly rendered as a question, 'Who is like God?' but might more properly be translated, 'The One who is like God.' Lucifer sought to seize this position. Isaiah 14:12–14. Jesus, though He is truly 'like God' [John 10:30, John 14:9], willingly relinquished this position in order to become our Saviour. [Philippians 2:5–7]

“In this vision of the prophet, the angel Gabriel declared: “The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.” [Daniel 10:13] For three weeks Gabriel had been wrestling with the powers of darkness, and seeking to counteract the influences at work on the mind of King Cyrus. Before the contest closed, Christ himself came to Gabriel's help.” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, December 5th, 1907.*

“Christ is called “the Word of God.” [John 1:1–3] He is so called because God gave His revelations to man in all ages through Christ. It was His Spirit that inspired the prophets. [1 Peter 1:10] He was revealed to them as the Angel of Jehovah, the Captain of the Lord's host, Michael The Archangel.” —*Patriarch's & Prophets, page 761. (Appendix)*

3. Heaven’s Hotline



Lesson Scripture

Sunday, June 8th, 2025

[Isaiah 6:3]

↪ ³ And one cried to another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* The LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of His glory.

[Isaiah 14:12-14]

↪ ¹² How are you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *how* are you cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

¹³ For you have said in your heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like The Most High.

[Daniel 10:13]

↪ ¹³ But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

[Daniel 10:21]

↪ ²¹ But I will show you that which is noted in The Scripture of Truth: and *there is* none that holds with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

[Daniel 12:1]

↪ ¹ And at that time shall Michael stand up, The Great Prince which stands for the children of your people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time your people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

[Mark 13:27]

↪ ²⁷ And then shall He send His angels, and shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven.

[John 1:1-3]

↪ ¹ In the beginning was The Word, and The Word was with God, and The Word was God.

² The same was in the beginning with God.

³ All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made.

[John 10:30]

↪ ³⁰ **I and My Father are One.**

[John 14:9]

↪ ⁹ Jesus said to him, **Have I been so long time with you, and yet have you not known Me, Philip? he that has seen Me has seen The Father; and how say you *then*, “Show us The Father?”**

[Philippians 2:5-7]

- ↳ ⁵ Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
- ↳ ⁶ Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
- ↳ ⁷ But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

[1 Peter 1:10]

- ↳ ¹⁰ Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace *that should come* to you:

[Jude 1:9]

- ↳ ⁹ Yet Michael, The Archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke you.

[Revelation 4:8]

- ↳ ⁸ And the four beasts had each of them six wings about *him*; and *they were* full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

[Revelation 5:12-13]

- ↳ ¹² Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is The Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.
- ↳ ¹³ And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, *be* to Him that sits upon the throne, and to The Lamb for ever and ever.

[Revelation 7:11-12]

- ↳ ¹¹ And all the angels stood round about the throne, and *about* the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,
- ↳ ¹² Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, *be* to our God for ever and ever. Amen.

[Revelation 12:7-9]

- ↳ ⁷ And there was war in heaven: Michael and His angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,
- ↳ ⁸ And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.
- ↳ ⁹ And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceived the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, June 8th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 166

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 8th

Like Christ in Thought

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 2:5

God expects those who bear the name of Christ to represent Him in thought, word, and deed. Their thoughts are to be pure and their words and deeds noble and uplifting, drawing those around them nearer to the Saviour.

In the life of the true Christian there is nothing of self. Self is dead. There was no selfishness in the life that Christ lived while on this earth. Bearing our nature, He lived a life wholly devoted to the service of others.

“*Be ye therefore perfect.*” (Matthew 5:48) is God’s word to us. And in order that we might obey this word, He sent His only-begotten Son to this earth to live in our behalf a perfect life. We have before us His example, and the strength by which He lived this life is at our disposal. In thought, word, and act Jesus was sinless. Perfection marked all that He did. He points us to the path that He trod, saying, “*If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.*” (Matthew 16:24)

We are to copy no human being. There is no human being wise enough to be our criterion. We are to look to the man Christ Jesus, who is complete in the perfection of righteousness and holiness. He is the author and finisher of our faith. He is the pattern man. His experience is the measure of the experience that we are to gain. His character is our model. Let us, then, take our minds off the perplexities and the difficulties of this life and fix them on Him, that by beholding we may be changed into His likeness....

We are to have an intense interest in Christ Jesus, for He is our Saviour. He came to this world to be tempted in all points as we are, to prove to the universe that in this world of sin human beings can live lives that God will approve.... Let us seek for the blessings that Christ has placed within our reach, that we may be made capable of receiving more and still more of His grace, and that we may be filled with a living, active, growing faith—a faith that believes the promise, “*Lo, I am with you always, ...*” (Matthew 28:20)

Daily Scripture

Sunday, June 8th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 102

Do Not Hide Your Face from Me

- Psa 102:1 **A Prayer of the afflicted, when he is overwhelmed, and pours out his complaint before the LORD.** Hear my prayer, O LORD, and let my cry come unto thee.
- Psa 102:2 Hide not thy face from me in the day *when* I am in trouble; incline thine ear unto me: in the day *when* I call answer me speedily.
- Psa 102:3 For my days are consumed like smoke, and my bones are burned as an hearth.
- Psa 102:4 My heart is smitten, and withered like grass; so that I forget to eat my bread.
- Psa 102:5 By reason of the voice of my groaning my bones cleave to my skin.
- Psa 102:6 I am like a pelican of the wilderness: I am like an owl of the desert.
- Psa 102:7 I watch, and am as a sparrow alone upon the house top.
- Psa 102:8 Mine enemies reproach me all the day; *and* they that are mad against me are sworn against me.
- Psa 102:9 For I have eaten ashes like bread, and mingled my drink with weeping,
- Psa 102:10 Because of thine indignation and thy wrath: for thou hast lifted me up, and cast me down.
- Psa 102:11 My days *are* like a shadow that declines; and I am withered like grass.
- Psa 102:12 But thou, O LORD, shalt endure for ever; and thy remembrance unto all generations.
- Psa 102:13 Thou shalt arise, *and* have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come.
- Psa 102:14 For thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favour the dust thereof.
- Psa 102:15 So the heathen shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth thy glory.
- Psa 102:16 When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.
- Psa 102:17 He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer.
- Psa 102:18 This shall be written for the generation to come: and the people which shall be created shall praise the LORD.
- Psa 102:19 For he has looked down from the height of his sanctuary; from heaven did the LORD behold the earth;
- Psa 102:20 To hear the groaning of the prisoner; to loose those that are appointed to death;
- Psa 102:21 To declare the name of the LORD in Zion, and his praise in Jerusalem;
- Psa 102:22 When the people are gathered together, and the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.
- Psa 102:23 He weakened my strength in the way; he shortened my days.
- Psa 102:24 I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of my days: thy years *are* throughout all generations.
- Psa 102:25 Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens *are* the work of thy hands.
- Psa 102:26 They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed:
- Psa 102:27 But thou *art* the same, and thy years shall have no end.
- Psa 102:28 The children of thy servants shall continue, and their seed shall be established before thee.

Monday – June 9th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 50:23; Daniel 12:1; Mark 10:45;

1. In the last great conflict, who will stand up for God's people?

➤ **Daniel 12:1** —

NOTES : “Let everyone inquire, “Is my name written there?”... You want to know where you are, and to know that Christ is formed within, the hope of glory. You want to be constantly singing, and when you do that you will stop your criticising. If you are beholding Him, you will not have time for anything else. And if you see His face, it will be reflected in your face, and all this mourning and groaning is dishonouring God, for “whoso offers praise, glorifies God.” [Psalm 50:23]”—*Sermons and Talks Volume One, page 310*

2. What was the motive of Christ's life?

➤ **Mark 10:45** —

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Monday, June 9th, 2025

[Psalms 50:23]

↳ ²³ Whoso offers praise glorifies Me: and to him that orders *his* conversation *aright* will I show the salvation of God.

[Daniel 12:1]

↳ ¹ And at that time shall Michael stand up, The Great Prince which stands for the children of your people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time your people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

[Mark 10:45]

↳ ⁴⁵ For even The Son of man came not to be ministered to, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, June 9th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 167

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 9th

Dare to Be Different

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:15

Those who claim to know the truth and understand the great work to be done for this time are to consecrate themselves to God, soul, body, and spirit. In heart, in dress, in language, in every respect, they are to be separate from the fashions and practices of the world. They are to be a peculiar and holy people. It is not their dress that makes them peculiar; but because they are a peculiar and holy people, they cannot carry the marks of likeness to the world.

As a people we are to prepare the way of the Lord. Every iota of ability God has given us must be put to use in preparing the people after God’s fashion, after His spiritual mould, to stand in this great day of God’s preparation.... Many who suppose they are going to heaven are blindfolded by the world. Their ideas of what constitutes a religious education and religious discipline are vague, resting only upon possibilities. There are many who have no intelligent hope, and are running great risk in practicing the very things which Jesus has taught that they should not do, in eating, drinking, and dressing, binding themselves up with the world in a variety of ways. They have yet to learn the serious lesson so essential to growth in spirituality, to come out from the world and be separate.

The heart is divided, the carnal mind craves conformity, similarity to the world in so many ways, that the mark of distinction from the world is scarcely distinguishable. Money, God’s money, is expended in order to make an appearance after the world’s customs; the religious experience is contaminated with worldliness, and the evidence of discipleship—Christ’s likeness in self-denial and cross bearing—is not discernible by the world or by the universe of heaven.

The question to be settled is, “*Are we willing to separate ourselves from the world, that we may become children of God?*” This is not the work of a moment or of a day.... It is a lifelong work. Love to God must be a living principle, underlying every act and word and thought.

Daily Scripture

Monday, June 9th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 103

Bless the Lord, O My Soul

- Psa 103:1 *A Psalm of David.* Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, *ble*ss his holy name.
- Psa 103:2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:
- Psa 103:3 Who forgives all thine iniquities; who heals all thy diseases;
- Psa 103:4 Who redeems thy life from destruction; who crowns thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;
- Psa 103:5 Who satisfies thy mouth with good *things*; *so that* thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- Psa 103:6 The LORD executes righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.
- Psa 103:7 He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.
- Psa 103:8 The LORD *is* merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.
- Psa 103:9 He will not always chide: neither will he keep *his anger* for ever.
- Psa 103:10 He has not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.
- Psa 103:11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, *so* great is his mercy toward them that fear him.
- Psa 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, *so* far has he removed our transgressions from us.
- Psa 103:13 Like as a father pities *his* children, *so* the LORD pities them that fear him.
- Psa 103:14 For he knows our frame; he remembers that we *are* dust.
- Psa 103:15 *As for* man, his days *are* as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourishes.
- Psa 103:16 For the wind passes over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.
- Psa 103:17 But the mercy of the LORD *is* from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;
- Psa 103:18 To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.
- Psa 103:19 The LORD has prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom rules over all.
- Psa 103:20 Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.
- Psa 103:21 Bless ye the LORD, all *ye* his hosts; *ye* ministers of his, that do his pleasure.
- Psa 103:22 Bless the LORD, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the LORD, O my soul.

Tuesday – 10th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Hebrews 1:14; Luke 15:10; Revelation 5:11;

1. What is the motive behind the angels' work?

➤ **Hebrews 1:14** —

NOTES : “Angels are ever engaged in working for the happiness of others. This is their joy. That which selfish hearts would consider humiliating service, ministering to those who are wretched and in every way inferior in character and rank, is the work of the pure, sinless angels in the royal courts of heaven. The spirit of Christ's self-sacrificing love is the spirit which pervades heaven and is the very essence of its bliss.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 3, page 381*

2. How do the angels respond to the repentance of a sinner?

➤ **Luke 15:10** —

NOTES : “All heaven is interested in our salvation. The angels of God, thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand, [Revelation 5:11] are commissioned to minister to those who shall be heirs of salvation. They guard us against evil and press back the powers of darkness that are seeking our destruction. Have we not reason to be thankful every moment, thankful even when there are apparent difficulties in our pathway?” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 6, page 63.*

‘If the angels of God rejoice over the erring who see and confess their wrongs and return to the fellowship of their brethren, how much more should the followers of Christ, who are themselves erring, and who every day need the forgiveness of God and of their brethren, feel joy over the return of a brother or a sister who has been deceived by the sophistry of Satan and has taken a wrong course and suffered because of it.’ —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 3, page 100.*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, June 10th, 2025

[Luke 15:10]

↪ ¹⁰ Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repents.

[Hebrews 1:14]

↪ ¹⁴ Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

[Revelation 5:11]

↪ ¹¹ And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, June 10th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 168

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 10th

No Partnership With the World

Know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

James 4:4

Christ and the world are not in partnership. The apostle says, “*Know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God?*” ... Conformity to the world will never be the means of converting the world to Christ. Christians must be entirely consecrated to God if the church is to be efficient in its influence for good upon unbelievers. The slightest diversion from Christ is so much influence, power, and efficiency given to the enemy.

A Christian, as described by the Scriptures, is a person who is separated from the world in his aims and practices and is united with Christ—a possessor of the peace which Christ alone can bestow, finding that the joy of the Lord is his strength and that his joy is full. Christians will not leave the world to perish unwarned, and make no effort for the reclaiming of the lost.... Those who truly love Christ ... watch for every opportunity to employ the means at their command in doing good and in patterning after the works of Christ. They will not yield to temptations to make alliances with the world. They will not unite with secret orders and bind themselves by intimacies with unbelievers. But those who are not wholly on the side of Christ are to a large degree controlled by the maxims and customs of the world....

Satan is rich in this world’s goods, and he is full of cunning to deceive, and his most effective agents are those whom he can lead to take a form of godliness while they deny the power of God by their un-Christlike characters. The children of God are to stand firmly for the right under all circumstances. They are not to be deceived by those who have the mind and spirit of the world....

God has His faithful witnesses who are not attempting to do that which Christ has pronounced impossible—that is, seeking to serve God and Mammon at the same time. They are burning and shining lights amid the moral darkness of the world and amid the gross darkness that covers the people like the pall of death.

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, June 10th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 104

O Lord My God, You Are Very Great

- Psa 104:1 Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.
- Psa 104:2 Who covers *thyself* with light as *with* a garment: who stretches out the heavens like a curtain:
- Psa 104:3 Who lays the beams of his chambers in the waters: who makes the clouds his chariot: who walks upon the wings of the wind:
- Psa 104:4 Who makes his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:
- Psa 104:5 *Who* laid the foundations of the earth, *that* it should not be removed for ever.
- Psa 104:6 Thou cover it with the deep as *with* a garment: the waters stood above the mountains.
- Psa 104:7 At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away.
- Psa 104:8 They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which thou hast founded for them.
- Psa 104:9 Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth.
- Psa 104:10 He sends the springs into the valleys, *which* run among the hills.
- Psa 104:11 They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst.
- Psa 104:12 By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, *which* sing among the branches.
- Psa 104:13 He waters the hills from his chambers: the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works.
- Psa 104:14 He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth;
- Psa 104:15 And wine *that* makes glad the heart of man, *and* oil to make *his* face to shine, and bread *which* strengthens man's heart.
- Psa 104:16 The trees of the LORD are full *of sap*; the cedars of Lebanon, which he has planted;
- Psa 104:17 Where the birds make their nests: *as for* the stork, the fir trees *are* her house.
- Psa 104:18 The high hills *are* a refuge for the wild goats; *and* the rocks for the conies.
- Psa 104:19 He appointed the moon for seasons: the sun knows his going down.
- Psa 104:20 Thou makes darkness, and it is night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep *forth*.
- Psa 104:21 The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God.
- Psa 104:22 The sun rises, they gather themselves together, and lay them down in their dens.
- Psa 104:23 Man goes forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening.
- Psa 104:24 O LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.
- Psa 104:25 *So is* this great and wide sea, wherein *are* things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts.
- Psa 104:26 There go the ships: *there is* that leviathan, *whom* thou hast made to play therein.
- Psa 104:27 These wait all upon thee; that thou may give *them* their meat in due season.
- Psa 104:28 *That* thou give them they gather: thou open thine hand, they are filled with good.
- Psa 104:29 Thou hide thy face, they are troubled: thou takeaway their breath, they die, and return to their dust.
- Psa 104:30 Thou send forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renew the face of the earth.
- Psa 104:31 The glory of the LORD shall endure for ever: the LORD shall rejoice in his works.
- Psa 104:32 He looks on the earth, and it trembles: he touches the hills, and they smoke.
- Psa 104:33 I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.
- Psa 104:34 My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the LORD.
- Psa 104:35 Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless thou the LORD, O my soul. Praise ye the LORD.

Wednesday – June 11th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : 2 Kings 6:15–17; Psalm 34:6-7; Psalm 91:6; Daniel 6:22; Acts 12:3-11; Acts 27:22-24; Acts 27:34; Acts 27:44;

1. What precious assurance are we given of angelic aid?

➤ **Psalm 34:6-7—**

NOTES : “God commissions His angels to save His chosen ones from calamity, to guard them from “the pestilence that walks in darkness nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.” [Psalm 91:6] Again and again have angels talked with men as a man speaks with a friend, and led them to places of security. Again and again have the encouraging words of angels renewed the drooping spirits of the faithful and, carrying their minds above the things of earth, caused them to behold by faith the white robes, the crowns, the palm branches of victory, which overcomers will receive when they surround the great white throne. It is the work of the angels to come close to the tried, the suffering, the tempted. They labour untiringly in behalf of those for whom Christ died.” —*The Acts of the Apostles, page 153*

2. What examples are we given of angelic protection and deliverance?

➤ **2 Kings 6:15–17 —**

➤ **Daniel 6:22 —**

➤ **Acts 12:3-11—**

NOTES : “Only the sense of God's presence can banish the fear that, for the timid child, would make life a burden. Let him fix in his memory the promise, “The angel of the Lord encamps round about them that fear Him, and delivers them.” [Psalm 34:7] Let him read that wonderful story of Elisha in the mountain city, and, between him and the hosts of armed foemen, a mighty encircling band of heavenly angels. Let him read how to Peter, in prison and condemned to death, God's angel appeared; how, past the armed guards, the massive doors and great iron gateway with their bolts and bars, the angel led God's servant forth in safety. Let him read of that scene on the sea, when the tempest-tossed soldiers and seamen, worn with labour and watching and long fasting, Paul the prisoner, on his way to trial and execution, spoke those grand words of courage and hope: “Be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you. . . . For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.” [Acts 27:22-24] In the faith of this promise Paul assured his companions, “There shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you.” [Acts 27:34] So it came to pass. Because there was in that ship one man through whom God could work, the whole shipload of heathen soldiers and sailors was preserved. “They escaped all safe to land.” [Acts 27:44]” —*Education, page 255*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, June 11th, 2025

[2 Kings 6:15-17]

- ☞ ¹⁵ And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?
- ¹⁶ And he answered, Fear not: for they that *be* with us *are* more than they that *be* with them.
- ¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray You, open his eyes, that he may see. And The LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain *was* full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

[Psalms 34:6-7]

- ☞ ⁶ This poor man cried, and The LORD heard *him*, and saved him out of all his troubles.
- ⁷ The angel of The LORD encamps round about them that fear Him, and delivers them.

[Psalms 91:6]

- ☞ ⁶ *Nor* for the pestilence *that* walks in darkness; *nor* for the destruction *that* wastes at noonday.

[Daniel 6:22]

- ☞ ²² My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

[Acts 12:3-11]

- ☞ ³ And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)
- ⁴ And when he had apprehended him, he put *him* in prison, and delivered *him* to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people.
- ⁵ Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church to God for him.
- ⁶ And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.
- ⁷ And, behold, the angel of The Lord came upon *him*, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from *his* hands.
- ⁸ And the angel said to him, Gird yourself, and bind on your sandals. And so he did. And he said to him, Cast your garment about you, and follow me.
- ⁹ And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision.
- ¹⁰ When they were past the first and the second ward, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him.
- ¹¹ And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that The Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and *from* all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

[Acts 27:22-24]

- ☞ ²² And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of *any man's* life among you, but of the ship.
- ²³ For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,
- ²⁴ Saying, Fear not, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God has given you all them that sail with you.

[Acts 27:34]

↳ ³⁴ Wherefore I pray you to take *some* meat: for this is for your health: for there shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you.

[Acts 27:44]

↳ ⁴⁴ And the rest, some on boards, and some on *broken pieces* of the ship. And so it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, June 11th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 169

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 11th

Severed From Earthly Things

And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

Ephesians 5:11

Many professed Christians are well represented by the vine that is trailing upon the ground and entwining its tendrils about the roots and rubbish that lie in its path. To all such the message comes, *“Come out from among them, and be ye separate, says the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”* (2 Corinthians 6:17, 18).

There are conditions to meet if we would be blessed and honoured by God. We are to separate from the world and refuse to touch those things that will separate our affections from God. God has the first and highest claims upon His people. Set your affections upon Him and upon heavenly things. Your tendrils must be severed from everything earthly. You are exhorted to touch not the unclean thing, for in touching this you will yourself become unclean. It is impossible for you to unite with those who are corrupt, and still remain pure. *“What fellowship has righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion has light with darkness? and what concord has Christ with Belial?”* (verses 14, 15). God and Christ and the heavenly host would have man know that if he unites with the corrupt, he will become corrupt....

All our actions are affected by our religious experience. If our experience is founded in God; if we are daily tasting the power of the world to come, and have the fellowship of the Spirit; if each day we hold with a firmer grasp the higher life, principles that are holy and elevating will be inwrought in us, and it will be as natural for us to seek purity and holiness and separation from the world as it is for the angels of glory to execute the mission of love assigned them.

Our consecration to God must be a living principle, interwoven with the life and leading to self-denial and self-sacrifice. It must underlie all our thoughts and be the spring of every action. This will elevate us above the world and separate us from its polluting influence.

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, June 11th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 105

Tell of All His Wonderful Works

- Psa 105:1 O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people.
- Psa 105:2 Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works.
- Psa 105:3 Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.
- Psa 105:4 Seek the LORD, and his strength: seek his face evermore.
- Psa 105:5 Remember his marvellous works that he has done; his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;
- Psa 105:6 O ye seed of Abraham his servant, ye children of Jacob his chosen.
- Psa 105:7 He *is* the LORD our God: his judgments *are* in all the earth.
- Psa 105:8 He has remembered his covenant for ever, the word *which* he commanded to a thousand generations.
- Psa 105:9 Which *covenant* he made with Abraham, and his oath unto Isaac;
- Psa 105:10 And confirmed the same unto Jacob for a law, *and* to Israel *for* an everlasting covenant:
- Psa 105:11 Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance:
- Psa 105:12 When they were *but* a few men in number; yea, very few, and strangers in it.
- Psa 105:13 When they went from one nation to another, from *one* kingdom to another people;
- Psa 105:14 He suffered no man to do them wrong: yea, he reprov'd kings for their sakes;
- Psa 105:15 *Saying*, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm.
- Psa 105:16 Moreover he called for a famine upon the land: he brake the whole staff of bread.
- Psa 105:17 He sent a man before them, *even* Joseph, *who* was sold for a servant:
- Psa 105:18 Whose feet they hurt with fetters: he was laid in iron:
- Psa 105:19 Until the time that his word came: the word of the LORD tried him.
- Psa 105:20 The king sent and loosed him; *even* the ruler of the people, and let him go free.
- Psa 105:21 He made him lord of his house, and ruler of all his substance:
- Psa 105:22 To bind his princes at his pleasure; and teach his senators wisdom.
- Psa 105:23 Israel also came into Egypt; and Jacob sojourn'd in the land of Ham.
- Psa 105:24 And he increased his people greatly; and made them stronger than their enemies.
- Psa 105:25 He turned their heart to hate his people, to deal subtly with his servants.
- Psa 105:26 He sent Moses his servant; *and* Aaron whom he had chosen.
- Psa 105:27 They shewed his signs among them, and wonders in the land of Ham.
- Psa 105:28 He sent darkness, and made it dark; and they rebelled not against his word.
- Psa 105:29 He turned their waters into blood, and slew their fish.
- Psa 105:30 Their land brought forth frogs in abundance, in the chambers of their kings.
- Psa 105:31 He spake, and there came divers sorts of flies, *and* lice in all their coasts.
- Psa 105:32 He gave them hail for rain, *and* flaming fire in their land.
- Psa 105:33 He smote their vines also and their fig trees; and brake the trees of their coasts.
- Psa 105:34 He spake, and the locusts came, and caterpillars, and that without number,
- Psa 105:35 And did eat up all the herbs in their land, and devoured the fruit of their ground.
- Psa 105:36 He smote also all the firstborn in their land, the chief of all their strength.
- Psa 105:37 He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and *there was* not one feeble *person* among their tribes.

Psa 105:38 Egypt was glad when they departed: for the fear of them fell upon them.

Psa 105:39 He spread a cloud for a covering; and fire to give light in the night.

Psa 105:40 *The people* asked, and he brought quails, and satisfied them with the bread of heaven.

Psa 105:41 He opened the rock, and the waters gushed out; they ran in the dry places *like* a river.

Psa 105:42 For he remembered his holy promise, *and* Abraham his servant.

Psa 105:43 And he brought forth his people with joy, *and* his chosen with gladness:

Psa 105:44 And gave them the lands of the heathen: and they inherited the labour of the people;

Psa 105:45 That they might observe his statutes, and keep his laws. Praise ye the LORD.

Thursday – June 12th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 103:20; Hebrews 1:14; Revelation 5:11; Revelation 19:10; Revelation 22:9;

1. How are the angels described by David?

➤ **Psalm 103:20** —

NOTES : “It we are indeed God's children we shall be harassed and sorely beset, and we need not expect that Satan or those under his influence will treat us well. But there are angels who excel in strength who will be with us in all our conflicts if we will only be faithful.”—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 3, p. 526*

“We need to understand better than we do the mission of the angel visitants. It would be well to consider that in all our work we have the co-operation and care of heavenly beings. Invisible armies of light and power attend the meek and lowly ones who believe and claim the promises of God. Cherubim and seraphim and angels that excel in strength—ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands” [Revelation 5:11]—stand at His right hand, “all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation.” [Hebrews 1:14]” —*Christ's Object Lessons, page 176*

2. How did the angel describe himself to John when the apostle tried to worship him?

➤ **Revelation 19:10** —

➤ **Revelation 22:9** —

NOTES : “The angel from heaven came to John in majesty, his countenance beaming with the excellent glory of God... The countenance of the angel grew radiant with joy and was exceeding glorious, as he showed John the final triumph of the church of God. As the apostle beheld the final deliverance of the church, he was carried away with the glory of the scene and with deep reverence and awe fell at the feet of the angel to worship him. The heavenly messenger instantly raised him up and gently reproved him, saying, “See thou do it not: I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” [Revelation 19:10] The angel then showed John the heavenly city with all its splendour and dazzling glory, and he, enraptured and overwhelmed, and forgetful of the former reproof of the angel, again fell to worship at his feet. Again, the gentle reproof was given, “See thou do it not for I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.” [Revelation 22:9]”—*Early Writings, page 230*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Thursday, June 12th, 2025

[Psalms 103:20]

↪ ²⁰ Bless The LORD, you His angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of His Word.

[Hebrews 1:14]

↪ ¹⁴ Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

[Revelation 5:11]

↪ ¹¹ And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

[Revelation 19:10]

↪ ¹⁰ And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said to me, See *you do it* not: I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

[Revelation 22:9]

↪ ⁹ Then said he to me, See *you do it* not: for I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, June 12th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 170

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 12th

Disentangled

No man that wars entangles himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who has chosen him to be a soldier.

2 Timothy 2:4

The Lord Jesus would have His purchased possession disentangle themselves from everything that would expose them to temptation. We are the Lord's by creation; we are His by redemption. All our senses are to be kept sharp and keen that we may place ourselves in right relation to God.

The company we choose will be a help or a hindrance to us. We are not to run any risk by placing ourselves where evil angels will surround us with their temptations and their snares. Satan ... puts his alluring temptations before the soul. He appears as an angel of light and clothes his temptations with apparent goodness. Our first work is to disentangle ourselves from everything that is in any way calculated to tarnish the soul.

If the Bible is not made the rule of life, our hereditary and cultivated habits and tastes will ensnare the soul.... The soul is of value, and is regarded by God as more precious than gold, even the golden wedge of Ophir. Christ has given us the estimate He places upon the human soul. Look at His humiliation, His sufferings, His death. Had He studied His pleasure, His choice, His convenience, He would never have left the royal courts of heaven....

After the human agent has spent his life in following his own impulses, placing his talents on the shrine of Satan, choosing his own interests, what has he gained? Cheap worldly applause. And what has he lost? An eternity of blessedness....

God calls upon us, in the place of expending our powers, our talents, and the vigour of brain and muscle upon unimportant, frivolous things, merely to amuse and gratify self, to bring eternity to view and hold ourselves under the control of the Holy Spirit's guidance. Elevated, pure, ennobling themes are to be the subjects of contemplation. To us individually as His property God says, *“Know ye not ... ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.”* [1 Corinthians 6:19-20]

Daily Scripture

Thursday, June 12th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 106

Give Thanks to the Lord, for He Is Good

- Psa 106:1 Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is* good: for his mercy *endures* for ever.
- Psa 106:2 Who can utter the mighty acts of the LORD? *who* can shew forth all his praise?
- Psa 106:3 Blessed *are* they that keep judgment, *and* he that doeth righteousness at all times.
- Psa 106:4 Remember me, O LORD, with the favour *that thou bear unto* thy people: O visit me with thy salvation;
- Psa 106:5 That I may see the good of thy chosen, that I may rejoice in the gladness of thy nation, that I may glory with thine inheritance.
- Psa 106:6 We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly.
- Psa 106:7 Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked *him* at the sea, *even* at the Red sea.
- Psa 106:8 Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known.
- Psa 106:9 He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up: so he led them through the depths, as through the wilderness.
- Psa 106:10 And he saved them from the hand of him that hated *them*, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.
- Psa 106:11 And the waters covered their enemies: there was not one of them left.
- Psa 106:12 Then believed they his words; they sang his praise.
- Psa 106:13 They soon forgot his works; they waited not for his counsel:
- Psa 106:14 But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert.
- Psa 106:15 And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.
- Psa 106:16 They envied Moses also in the camp, *and* Aaron the saint of the LORD.
- Psa 106:17 The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan, and covered the company of Abiram.
- Psa 106:18 And a fire was kindled in their company; the flame burned up the wicked.
- Psa 106:19 They made a calf in Horeb, and worshipped the molten image.
- Psa 106:20 Thus they changed their glory into the similitude of an ox that eats grass.
- Psa 106:21 They forgot God their saviour, which had done great things in Egypt;
- Psa 106:22 Wondrous works in the land of Ham, *and* terrible things by the Red sea.
- Psa 106:23 Therefore he said that he would destroy them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, to turn away his wrath, lest he should destroy *them*.
- Psa 106:24 Yea, they despised the pleasant land, they believed not his word:
- Psa 106:25 But murmured in their tents, *and* hearkened not unto the voice of the LORD.
- Psa 106:26 Therefore he lifted up his hand against them, to overthrow them in the wilderness:
- Psa 106:27 To overthrow their seed also among the nations, and to scatter them in the lands.
- Psa 106:28 They joined themselves also unto Baalpeor, and ate the sacrifices of the dead.
- Psa 106:29 Thus they provoked *him* to anger with their inventions: and the plague brake in upon them.
- Psa 106:30 Then stood up Phinehas, and executed judgment: and *so* the plague was stayed.
- Psa 106:31 And that was counted unto him for righteousness unto all generations for evermore.
- Psa 106:32 They angered *him* also at the waters of strife, so that it went ill with Moses for their sakes:
- Psa 106:33 Because they provoked his spirit, so that he spake unadvisedly with his lips.

- Psa 106:34 They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the LORD commanded them:
- Psa 106:35 But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works.
- Psa 106:36 And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them.
- Psa 106:37 Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils,
- Psa 106:38 And shed innocent blood, *even* the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan: and the land was polluted with blood.
- Psa 106:39 Thus were they defiled with their own works, and went a whoring with their own inventions.
- Psa 106:40 Therefore was the wrath of the LORD kindled against his people, insomuch that he abhorred his own inheritance.
- Psa 106:41 And he gave them into the hand of the heathen; and they that hated them ruled over them.
- Psa 106:42 Their enemies also oppressed them, and they were brought into subjection under their hand.
- Psa 106:43 Many times did he deliver them; but they provoked *him* with their counsel, and were brought low for their iniquity.
- Psa 106:44 Nevertheless he regarded their affliction, when he heard their cry:
- Psa 106:45 And he remembered for them his covenant, and repented according to the multitude of his mercies.
- Psa 106:46 He made them also to be pitied of all those that carried them captives.
- Psa 106:47 Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the heathen, to give thanks unto thy holy name, *and* to triumph in thy praise.
- Psa 106:48 Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting: and let all the people say, Amen. Praise ye the LORD.

Preparation Day – June 13th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Isaiah 53:3; Habakkuk 3:3–4; Matthew 24: 31; Revelation 5:11; Revelation 19:11; Revelation 19:14; Revelation 19:16;

1. What part will the angels play in the Second Coming of Jesus?

➤ **Matthew 24: 31** —

NOTES : “Soon there appears in the east a small black cloud, about half the size of a man's hand. It is the cloud which surrounds the Saviour and which seems in the distance to be shrouded in darkness. The people of God know this to be the sign of the Son of man. In solemn silence they gaze upon it as it draws nearer the earth, becoming lighter and more glorious, until it is a great white cloud, its base a glory like consuming fire, and above it the rainbow of the covenant. Jesus rides forth as a mighty conqueror. Not now a “Man of Sorrows,” [Isaiah 53:3] to drink the bitter cup of shame and woe, He comes, victor in heaven and earth, to judge the living and the dead. “Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war.” [Revelation 19:11] And “the armies which were in heaven” [Revelation 19:14] follow Him. With anthems of celestial melody, the holy angels, a vast, unnumbered throng, attend Him on His way. The firmament seems filled with radiant forms, “ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands.” [Revelation 5:11] No human pen can portray the scene; no mortal mind is adequate to conceive its splendour. “His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of His praise. And His brightness was as the light.” [Habakkuk 3:3–4] As the living cloud comes still nearer, every eye beholds the Prince of life. No crown of thorns now mars that sacred head; but a diadem of glory rests on His holy brow. His countenance outshines the dazzling brightness of the noonday sun. “And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, King of kings, and Lord of lords.” [Revelation 19:16]”—
The Great Controversy, page 640

2. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, June 13th, 2025

[Isaiah 53:3]

☞ ³ He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were *our* faces from Him; He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.

[Habakkuk 3:3-4]

☞ ³ God came from Teman, and The Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of His praise.

⁴ And *His* brightness was as the light; He had horns *coming* out of His hand: and there *was* the hiding of His power.

[Matthew 24:31]

☞ ³¹ And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

[Revelation 5:11]

☞ ¹¹ And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

[Revelation 19:11]

☞ ¹¹ And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He does judge and make war.

[Revelation 19:14]

☞ ¹⁴ And the armies *which were* in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

[Revelation 19:16]

☞ ¹⁶ And He has on *His* vesture and on His thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, June 13th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 171

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 13th

The Vital Threads of Influence

That thou may walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous.

Proverbs 2:20

It is generally the case that in school associations there are developed two classes of persons—those who seek to do the right and those who solicit others to enter into evil....

In associating with the careless and reckless it is an easy matter to come to view things as they do and to lose all sense of what it means to be a follower of Jesus. Guard yourself on this one point in particular. Do not be influenced and led astray by those you have reason to know by their words and actions are not in connection with God. *“By their fruits ye shall know them.”* (Matthew 7:20)....

Satan is seeking to imbue every soul that is not connected with Jesus Christ with his own spirit, and every soul who refuses to connect with Jesus Christ will be brought into connection with the enemy of Christ. There are threads of influence leading out from these souls to bind and draw other souls by human influence until they shall be placed under the control of Satan, and their feet be led into false paths.... This danger is common to all. You will be tempted to choose your own way and to have your own will, while disregarding the will of God....

Let nothing draw you away from the work of character building, but do your work for time and for eternity.... Live a life of consistency, and fashion your character after the divine Pattern. If you live carelessly and do not watch unto prayer, you will surely fall a prey to the enemy and will yield to enticements to sin; thus you will lay upon the foundation stone, wood, hay, and stubble, which will be consumed in the last great day.

Every heart is moved or drawn of Jesus Christ. As you become students of Scripture the Spirit of God takes the things of God and impresses them upon the soul. The golden threads that extend from the souls of those who make God their strength will fasten through the threads of influence to other souls and draw them to Christ. This is the work to be done by those who place on the foundation stone precious material, for they cooperate with Jesus Christ.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, June 13th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 107

Let the Redeemed of the Lord Say So

- Psa 107:1 O give thanks unto the LORD, for *he is* good: for his mercy *endures* for ever.
- Psa 107:2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say *so*, whom he has redeemed from the hand of the enemy;
- Psa 107:3 And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south.
- Psa 107:4 They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way; they found no city to dwell in.
- Psa 107:5 Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them.
- Psa 107:6 Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, *and* he delivered them out of their distresses.
- Psa 107:7 And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation.
- Psa 107:8 Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!
- Psa 107:9 For he satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness.
- Psa 107:10 Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, *being* bound in affliction and iron;
- Psa 107:11 Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High:
- Psa 107:12 Therefore he brought down their heart with labour; they fell down, and *there was* none to help.
- Psa 107:13 Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, *and* he saved them out of their distresses.
- Psa 107:14 He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and brake their bands in sunder.
- Psa 107:15 Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!
- Psa 107:16 For he has broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder.
- Psa 107:17 Fools because of their transgression, and because of their iniquities, are afflicted.
- Psa 107:18 Their soul abhors all manner of meat; and they draw near unto the gates of death.
- Psa 107:19 Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, *and* he saves them out of their distresses.
- Psa 107:20 He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered *them* from their destructions.
- Psa 107:21 Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!
- Psa 107:22 And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.
- Psa 107:23 They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters;
- Psa 107:24 These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep.
- Psa 107:25 For he commands, and raises the stormy wind, which lifts up the waves thereof.
- Psa 107:26 They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble.
- Psa 107:27 They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end.
- Psa 107:28 Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he brings them out of their distresses.
- Psa 107:29 He makes the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.
- Psa 107:30 Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he brings them unto their desired haven.
- Psa 107:31 Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!
- Psa 107:32 Let them exalt him also in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders.

- Psa 107:33 He turneth rivers into a wilderness, and the water springs into dry ground;
- Psa 107:34 A fruitful land into barrenness, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein.
- Psa 107:35 He turned the wilderness into a standing water, and dry ground into water springs.
- Psa 107:36 And there he makes the hungry to dwell, that they may prepare a city for habitation;
- Psa 107:37 And sow the fields, and plant vineyards, which may yield fruits of increase.
- Psa 107:38 He blesses them also, so that they are multiplied greatly; and suffers not their cattle to decrease.
- Psa 107:39 Again, they are minished and brought low through oppression, affliction, and sorrow.
- Psa 107:40 He pours contempt upon princes, and causes them to wander in the wilderness, *where there is* no way.
- Psa 107:41 Yet sets he the poor on high from affliction, and makes *him* families like a flock.
- Psa 107:42 The righteous shall see *it*, and rejoice: and all iniquity shall stop her mouth.
- Psa 107:43 Whoso *is* wise, and will observe these *things*, even they shall understand the lovingkindness of the LORD.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, June 13th, 2025



As a boy, Jerry traveled with his father from town to town to visit church members on the Indonesian island of Papua. His father, a Seventh-day Adventist pastor, would stop from time to time outside a town that didn't have an Adventist church.

“Dear God,” Father prayed. “Please bless this town by giving it an Adventist church one day.”

Jerry saw God answer those prayers. In one town, a church was established five years after his father prayed. In another town, a church opened 20 years later.

Jerry followed in his father's footsteps and became a pastor in Papua. As he visited church members around Sentani Lake on one occasion, he was inspired to see a number of churches that had been planted in towns that his father had prayed for years earlier.

But then he saw a town on Sentani Lake without any Adventist church and without any Adventists. His small boat passed the town of Yoboi as he sailed to another town with church members.

Jerry remembered his father's habit of praying for towns without churches, and he asked the boatman to slow down. He wanted to pray for Yoboi.

Bowing his head, he said, “Dear God, Please bless this town by giving it an Adventist church one day.”

What happened next, he only learned about later.

A prominent resident of the town happened to travel to Israel for a Holy Land tour two months after Jerry's prayer. The man, whose name was Thonce, looked out the window of his Jerusalem hotel as the sun set and noticed unusual activity on the street. A siren blasted, and buses sped to their stations. Then everything fell quiet.

Thonce looked at his watch and saw that it was Friday evening. He realized that the Jewish people were stopping their work for the Sabbath.

Then he remembered that he worked with several Adventists in Papua who also stopped their work from sunset Friday to sunset Saturday to keep the Sabbath. He wondered, “The Adventist Church worships on the same day as the people of Israel. Why doesn’t my church, too? My church claims to worship the God of Israel.” He resolved to find answers when he returned home.

Back in Papua, he went to an Adventist church in a neighboring town and learned that it was holding evangelistic meetings. The church’s pastor, Jerry, invited Thonce to attend.

At the meetings, Thonce found biblical answers to all question about the Sabbath. He decided to keep the Sabbath, and he and his wife became Seventh-day Adventists.

Not long after their baptisms, Jerry visited their home in Yoboi and helped organize a house church. It was an answer to his prayer and the continuation of his father’s legacy.

“I’m very grateful for the heritage that my dad has left me,” said Jerry Jacobs, who is now pastor of the Adventist church at Klabat University. “Let’s continue to pray that a church building will open in this town one day.”

Pray for the town of Yoboi in Papua, Indonesia. Pray that the gospel will reach more places on the island and more churches will be built there. Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help spread the gospel in Papua through the construction of classrooms, an administrative building, a library, and an auditorium at Papua Adventist Theology College. The college moved to its current location in Nabire after its old campus in another part of Papua was destroyed by a flood in 2019. Currently, students meet in classrooms that are on loan from an Adventist academy. Thank you for planning a generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to support the training of pastors and Bible workers at the college.

By Andrew McChesney

LESSON 12

“A VERY PRESENT HELP IN TROUBLE”

June 14 — June 20

MEMORY VERSE : “To the chief Musician for the sons of Korah, A Song upon Alamoth. *God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah. [Psalm 46:1–3]*

STUDY HELP : ✓ Education, pages 253-261

INTRODUCTION : “We should not think that the Lord will not regard our petitions. I have heard persons say that they could not get an evidence that the Lord heard their prayers. Where did they look for evidence? The evidence is in the word of God. They have said, “O, if I could only have a vision, or a dream, then I would know that the Lord regarded my request.” But would that make it any more sure than does His word? One man said he had waited for forty years for a manifestation of God's favour before he could believe that his Heavenly Father looked with mercy upon him. He wanted some marvellous revelation that would come like a shock of electricity, and thrill his entire being; but he did not get it. We are to believe that God accepts us when we fulfil His conditions, simply because He has said that He would. We should place ourselves on the Lord's side; and when we have done this, then with childlike confidence we should believe that the God of heaven looks with favour upon us. We cannot lean on any earthly support. The Lord God of Israel must become our helper.’ Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, July 2nd, 1889

Sabbath – June 14th

LESSON SCRIPTURE : 2 Chronicles 14:11; 2 Chronicles 5:7-9;

1. What counsel did a man of God give to Amaziah when the king wanted to rely on the strength of His army instead of God?

➤ 2 Chronicles 5:7-9 —

NOTE : “We are to pray without ceasing, and we are to live our prayers. Faith will greatly increase by exercise... Learn of Christ. Have faith in His power to help and save you. Faith is the very lifeblood of the soul. Its presence gives warmth, health, consistency, and sound judgement. Its vitality and vigour exert a powerful though unconscious influence. The life of Christ in the soul is as a well of water springing up unto everlasting life. It leads to a constant cultivation of the heavenly graces and to a kindly submission in all things to the Lord.”—*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 6, page 471*

“We are to believe in God and His promises, and in His power to help and save us. We must believe Him; for He is well able and more than willing to help us in time of trouble, to comfort us in times of affliction and distress, and to deliver us out of all our trials and difficulties. Troubles and difficulties will come, and we must confide in God.” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, December 12th, 1886*

“Let us thank God with heart and soul and voice; and let us learn to approach unto Him as through an open door, believing that we may come freely with our petitions, and that He will hear and answer. It is by a living faith in His power to help, that we shall receive strength to fight the battles of the Lord with the confident assurance of victory.” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, July 9th, 1908*

2. In contrast, how did King Asa show his faith in God's power to help?

➤ **2 Chronicles 14:11** —

NOTE : “When ancient Israel trusted in the Lord their God, He always wrought for them. Here was a large army; thousands and thousands were brought up against them, and it looked to them that with their small army they would certainly be overcome. But... Asa's trust was in the Lord God of Israel. It was not in their number, but he believed that the Lord could deliver them by few as well as by many. He reached out for God, and his faith took hold upon the Lord, and the Lord graciously heard and answered the petition of Asa; and they obtained the victory because God was wholly on their side. This was, indeed, a test and trial to the faith of those who served the Lord of the armies of Israel. They had fears that sin might be so cherished in their midst that God could not do wonderful things in their behalf. It was a vast number that they had to meet, a thousand thousand men. But Asa had not been giving himself to amusement and pleasure; in time of peace he had been preparing for any emergency; he had an army trained for conflict; but how few were their numbers when compared with their enemies! Did this appearance weaken their faith? Did it discourage effort? No; faith increased and strengthened for the occasion, not in self-confidence, but in the only One in whom they could trust. The prayers of Asa were not offered in vain. He had sought the Lord in the days of his prosperity, and now he could rely upon Him in days of adversity. He showed by his petitions that he was not a stranger to the Lord's wonderful power.” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, May 10th, 1887*

3. Heaven's Hotline:

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, June 14th, 2025

[2 Chronicles 4:11]

↪ ¹¹ And Hiram made the pots, and the shovels, and the basins. And Hiram finished the work that he was to make for king Solomon for the house of God;

[2 Chronicles 5:7-9]

↪ ⁷ And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of The LORD to his place, to the oracle of the house, into the most holy *place, even* under the wings of the cherubims:

⁸ For the cherubims spread forth *their* wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubims covered the ark and the staves thereof above.

⁹ And they drew out the staves *of the ark*, that the ends of the staves were seen from the ark before the oracle; but they were not seen without. And there it is to this day.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

E. G. W. Study Help

Sabbath, June 14th, 2025

Education **Chapter 30, p. 253-261**

“Faith and Prayer”

Faith is trusting God—believing that He loves us and knows best what is for our good. Thus, instead of our own, it leads us to choose His way. In place of our ignorance, it accepts His wisdom; in place of our weakness, His strength; in place of our sinfulness, His righteousness. Our lives, ourselves, are already His; faith acknowledges His ownership and accepts its blessing. Truth, uprightness, purity, have been pointed out as secrets of life's success. It is faith that puts us in possession of these principles.

Every good impulse or aspiration is the gift of God; faith receives from God the life that alone can produce true growth and efficiency.

How to exercise faith should be made very plain. To every promise of God there are conditions. If we are willing to do His will, all His strength is ours. Whatever gift He promises, is in the promise itself. "The seed is the word of God." Luke 8:11. As surely as the oak is in the acorn, so surely is the gift of God in His promise. If we receive the promise, we have the gift.

Faith that enables us to receive God's gifts is itself a gift, of which some measure is imparted to every human being. It grows as exercised in appropriating the word of God. In order to strengthen faith, we must often bring it in contact with the word.

In the study of the Bible the student should be led to see the power of God's word. In the creation, "He spake, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast." He "calls those things which be not as though they were" (Psalm 33:9; Romans 4:17); for when He calls them, they are.

How often those who trusted the word of God, though in themselves utterly helpless, have withstood the power of the whole world--Enoch, pure in heart, holy in life, holding fast his faith in the triumph of righteousness against a corrupt and scoffing generation; Noah and his household against the men of his time, men of the greatest physical and mental strength and the most debased in morals; the children of Israel at the Red Sea, a helpless, terrified multitude of slaves, against the mightiest army of the mightiest nation on the globe; David, a shepherd lad, having God's promise of the throne, against Saul, the established monarch, bent on holding fast his power; Shadrach and his companions in the fire, and Nebuchadnezzar on the throne; Daniel among the lions, his enemies in the high places of the kingdom; Jesus on the cross, and the Jewish priests and rulers forcing even the Roman governor to work their will; Paul in chains led to a criminal's death, Nero the despot of a world empire.

Such examples are not found in the Bible only. They abound in every record of human progress. The Vaudois and the Huguenots, Wycliffe and Huss, Jerome and Luther, Tyndale and Knox, Zinzendorf and Wesley, with multitudes of others, have witnessed to the power of God's word against human power and policy in support of evil. These are the world's true nobility. This is its royal line. In this line the youth of today are called to take their places.

Faith is needed in the smaller no less than in the greater affairs of life. In all our daily interests and occupations the sustaining strength of God becomes real to us through an abiding trust.

Viewed from its human side, life is to all an untried path. It is a path in which, as regards our deeper experiences, we each walk alone. Into our inner life no other human being can fully enter. As the little child sets forth on that journey in which, sooner or later, he must choose his own course, himself deciding life's issues for eternity, how earnest should be the effort to direct his trust to the sure Guide and Helper!

As a shield from temptation and an inspiration to purity and truth, no other influence can equal the sense of God's presence. "All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do." He is "of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity." Hebrews 4:13; Habakkuk 1:13. This thought was Joseph's shield amidst the corruptions of Egypt. To the allurements of temptation his answer was steadfast: "How . . . can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" Genesis 39:9. Such a shield, faith, if cherished, will bring to every soul.

Only the sense of God's presence can banish the fear that, for the timid child, would make life a burden. Let him fix in his memory the promise, "The angel of the Lord encamps round about them that fear Him, and delivers them." Psalm 34:7. Let him read that wonderful story of Elisha in the mountain city, and, between him and the hosts of armed foemen, a mighty encircling band of heavenly angels. Let him read how to Peter, in prison and condemned to death, God's angel appeared; how, past the armed guards, the massive doors and great iron gateway with their bolts and bars, the angel led God's servant forth in safety. Let him read of that scene on the sea, when the tempest-tossed soldiers and seamen, worn with labour and watching and long fasting, Paul the prisoner, on his way to trial and execution, spoke those grand words of courage and hope: "Be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you. . . . For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee." In the faith of this promise Paul assured his companions, "There shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you." So it came to pass. Because there was in that ship one man through whom God could work, the whole shipload of heathen soldiers and sailors was preserved. "They escaped all safe to land." Acts 27:22-24, 34, 44.

These things were not written merely that we might read and wonder, but that the same faith which wrought in God's servants of old might work in us. In no less marked a manner than He wrought then will He work now wherever there are hearts of faith to be channels of His power.

Let the self-distrustful, whose lack of self-reliance leads them to shrink from care and responsibility, be taught reliance upon God. Thus many a one who otherwise would be but a cipher in the world, perhaps only a helpless burden, will be able to say with the apostle Paul, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." Philippians 4:13.

For the child also who is quick to resent injuries, faith has precious lessons. The disposition to resist evil or to avenge wrong is often prompted by a keen sense of justice and an active, energetic spirit. Let such a child be taught that God is the eternal guardian of right. He has a tender care for the beings whom He has so loved as to give His dearest Beloved to save. He will deal with every wrongdoer.

"For he that touches you touches the apple of His eye." Zechariah 2:8.

"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass. . . . He shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday." Psalm 37:5, 6.

"The Lord also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. And they that know Thy name will put their trust in Thee: for Thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek Thee." Psalm 9:9, 10.

The compassion that God manifests toward us, He bids us manifest toward others. Let the impulsive, the self-sufficient, the revengeful, behold the meek and lowly One, led as a lamb to the slaughter, unretaliating as a sheep dumb before her shearers. Let them look upon Him whom our sins have pierced and our sorrows burdened, and they will learn to endure, to forbear, and to forgive.

Through faith in Christ, every deficiency of character may be supplied, every defilement cleansed, every fault corrected, every excellence developed.

"Ye are complete in Him." Colossians 2:10.

Prayer and faith are closely allied, and they need to be studied together. In the prayer of faith there is a divine science; it is a science that everyone who would make his lifework a success must understand. Christ says, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." Mark 11:24. He

makes it plain that our asking must be according to God's will; we must ask for the things that He has promised, and whatever we receive must be used in doing His will. The conditions met, the promise is unequivocal.

For the pardon of sin, for the Holy Spirit, for a Christlike temper, for wisdom and strength to do His work, for any gift He has promised, we may ask; then we are to believe that we receive, and return thanks to God that we have received.

We need look for no outward evidence of the blessing. The gift is in the promise, and we may go about our work assured that what God has promised He is able to perform, and that the gift, which we already possess, will be realized when we need it most.

To live thus by the word of God means the surrender to Him of the whole life. There will be felt a continual sense of need and dependence, a drawing out of the heart after God. Prayer is a necessity; for it is the life of the soul. Family prayer, public prayer, have their place; but it is secret communion with God that sustains the soul life.

It was in the mount with God that Moses beheld the pattern of that wonderful building which was to be the abiding place of His glory. It is in the mount with God--in the secret place of communion--that we are to contemplate His glorious ideal for humanity. Thus we shall be enabled so to fashion our character building that to us may be fulfilled His promise, "I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people." 2 Corinthians 6:16.

It was in hours of solitary prayer that Jesus in His earth life received wisdom and power. Let the youth follow His example in finding at dawn and twilight a quiet season for communion with their Father in heaven. And throughout the day let them lift up their hearts to God. At every step of our way He says, "I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, . . . Fear not; I will help thee." Isaiah 41:13. Could our children learn these lessons in the morning of their years, what freshness and power, what joy and sweetness, would be brought into their lives!

These are lessons that only he who himself has learned can teach. It is because so many parents and teachers profess to believe the word of God while their lives deny its power, that the teaching of Scripture has no greater effect upon the youth. At times the youth are brought to feel the power of the word. They see the preciousness of the love of Christ. They see the beauty of His character, the possibilities of a life given to His service. But in contrast they see the life of those who profess to revere God's precepts. Of how many are the words true that were spoken to the prophet Ezekiel:

Thy people "speak one to another, everyone to his brother, saying, Come, I pray you, and hear what is the word that cometh forth from the Lord. And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as My people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they show much love, but their heart goes after their covetousness. And, lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument: for they hear thy words, but they do them not." Ezekiel 33:30-32.

It is one thing to treat the Bible as a book of good moral instruction, to be heeded so far as is consistent with the spirit of the times and our position in the world; it is another thing to regard it as it really is--the word of the living God, the word that is our life, the word that is to mould our actions, our words, and our thoughts. To hold God's word as anything less than this is to reject it. And this rejection by those who profess to believe it, is foremost among the causes of scepticism and infidelity in the youth.

An intensity such as never before was seen is taking possession of the world. In amusement, in moneymaking, in the contest for power, in the very struggle for existence, there is a terrible force that engrosses body and mind and soul. In the midst of this maddening rush, God is speaking. He bids us come apart and commune with Him. "Be still, and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10.

Many, even in their seasons of devotion, fail of receiving the blessing of real communion with God. They are in too great haste. With hurried steps they press through the circle of Christ's loving presence, pausing perhaps a moment within the sacred precincts, but not waiting for counsel. They have no time to remain with the divine Teacher. With their burdens they return to their work.

These workers can never attain the highest success until they learn the secret of strength. They must give themselves time to think, to pray, to wait upon God for a renewal of physical, mental, and spiritual power. They need the uplifting influence of His Spirit. Receiving this, they will be quickened by fresh life. The wearied frame and tired brain will be refreshed, the burdened heart will be lightened.

Not a pause for a moment in His presence, but personal contact with Christ, to sit down in companionship with Him--this is our need. Happy will it be for the children of our homes and the students of our schools when parents and teachers shall learn in their own lives the precious experience pictured in these words from the Song of Songs:

"As the apple tree among the trees of the wood,
So is my Beloved among the sons.
I sat down under His shadow with great delight,
And His fruit was sweet to my taste.
He brought me to the banqueting house,
And His banner over me was love." Song of Solomon 2:3, 4.

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, June 14th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 172

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 14th

A Network of Virtuous Influences

I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.

Psalm 119:63

Young people desire companionship, and just in proportion to the strength with which their feelings and affections fasten upon those with whom they associate, will be the power of those friends to be either a blessing or a curse to them. Then let parents beware. Let them guard every influence of association. *“He that walks with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.”* (Proverbs 13:20). The youth will have associates and will feel their influence....

Wax does not more certainly retain the figure of the seal than does the mind the impressions produced by intercourse and association. The influence is often silent and unconscious, nevertheless it is strong and impressive. If wise and good men and women are the chosen companions, then you put yourself in the direct way of becoming sound in thought, in ideas, and correct in principles. And such intimacies are of highest value in the formation of character. A network of virtuous influences will be woven around you, which the evil one will not be able to break with his seductive wiles....

But let the youth choose the influence of, and become associated with, men and women of bad principles and practices, ... and they are polluted. Silent and unconscious influences weave their sentiments into their lives, become a part of their very existence, and they walk on the very brink of a precipice and sense no danger. They learn to love the words of the smooth tongued, the honeyed words of the deceiver, and are restless, uneasy, and unhappy unless they are carried to the pinnacle of someone’s flattery.... To walk in the counsel of the ungodly is the first step toward standing in the place of sinners and sitting in the seat of the scornful.

The only safe course for the youth is to mingle with the pure, the holy, and thus natural tendencies to evil will be held in check. By choosing for their companions such as fear the Lord, they will seldom be found disbelieving God’s Word, entertaining doubts and infidelity. The power of a truly consistent example is very great for good.

Daily Scripture

Sabbath, June 14th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 108

With God We Shall Do Valiantly

- Psa 108:1 **A Song or Psalm of David.** O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise, even with my glory.
- Psa 108:2 Awake, psaltery and harp: I *myself* will awake early.
- Psa 108:3 I will praise thee, O LORD, among the people: and I will sing praises unto thee among the nations.
- Psa 108:4 For thy mercy *is* great above the heavens: and thy truth *reaches* unto the clouds.
- Psa 108:5 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: and thy glory above all the earth;
- Psa 108:6 That thy beloved may be delivered: save *with* thy right hand, and answer me.
- Psa 108:7 God has spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth.
- Psa 108:8 Gilead *is* mine; Manasseh *is* mine; Ephraim also *is* the strength of mine head; Judah *is* my lawgiver;
- Psa 108:9 Moab *is* my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe; over Philistia will I triumph.
- Psa 108:10 Who will bring me into the strong city? who will lead me into Edom?
- Psa 108:11 *Wilt not thou*, O God, *who* hast cast us off? and wilt not thou, O God, go forth with our hosts?
- Psa 108:12 Give us help from trouble: for vain *is* the help of man.
- Psa 108:13 Through God we shall do valiantly: for he *it is that* shall tread down our enemies.

Children’s Mission Story

Sabbath, June 14th, 2025



Little Boy felt so sad. His hands itched, his feet itched, and he didn’t know what to do to make the itching go away.

Little Boy and his family lived far away from any hospital. They lived far away from any doctors and nurses. They lived in a village high up in the mountains of the Philippines. The other boys and girls in the village also had itchy hands and itchy feet. No one knew what to do about it.

Then one day two young women came to the village. Little Boy heard them say that they were missionaries from far away. He heard them say that they would live for a year in his village. Then one of them looked directly at him and invited him to hear stories about God.

“Come to the mountain river that flows beside the village, and be sure to invite your friends,” she said with a bright smile.

Before long, Little Boy and a dozen other children were sitting on the rocky bank of the river with the two missionaries. Little Boy listened with interest as one missionary opened a book with colorful pictures and began to read a story about God. But then his hand began to itch. He scratched it. His foot began to itch. He scratched it, too. Then his other hand and foot itched, and he scratched them. The other children also felt itchy, and they all scratched and scratched and scratched. It was hard to listen to the story about God while they were scratching.

The missionaries noticed that the children were distracted by their itches, and they looked closely at their hands and feet.

“I have an idea,” said one of the missionaries. “I saw a similar rash when I was a small girl in my village. We boiled guava leaves in water, and then bathed our hands and feet in the water. Let’s try it here.”

The two missionaries asked the children if they had guava trees in the village. Little Boy eagerly pointed out a guava tree. The missionaries picked leaves and told the children to fetch basins or buckets or bowls at home. Little Boy scampered off.

When he returned, he found the missionaries boiling guava leaves in a large pot of water. Then the missionaries removed the pot from the fire and waited for the water to cool down. While they waited, the missionaries taught the kids happy songs about God. Then the missionaries poured water into the children’s basins and buckets and bowls. “Let’s pray to God for help,” one said. The other showed the children how to close their eyes and fold their hands. She prayed, “Dear God, please heal these children. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

Little Boy and the other children put his hands into their containers and waited 20 minutes. Then they changed the water, put their feet in the containers, and waited another 20 minutes. The time flew by as they sang merrily about God.

Every day after that, the missionaries boiled leaves, prayed, and bathed the children’s hands and feet. They showed all the mommies how to do the same. After two weeks, the white bumps left the children’s hands and feet. Everyone was so happy!

Then the missionaries invited the children to come back to the riverbank to hear stories about God. Little Boy went. Now he could listen attentively because he was no longer distracted by itchy hands and feet. He wanted to know more about the God who had heard the missionaries’ prayers and healed him.

The two young women who helped Little Boy were trained to be missionaries at a center built with the help of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering in 1986. Thank you for planning a generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering on June 28 that will help more children know about Jesus in Asia.

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – June 15th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 34:1–10; Psalm 56:9–13; Psalm 147:3; James 5:11;

1. How does David express his confidence that God will hear and answer his prayers?

➤ **Psalm 34:1–10** —

NOTES : “Keep your wants, your joys, your sorrows, your cares, and your fears before God. You cannot burden Him; you cannot weary Him. He who numbers the hairs of your head is not indifferent to the wants of His children. “The Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.” [James 5:11] His heart of love is touched by our sorrows and even by our utterances of them. Take to Him everything that perplexes the mind. Nothing is too great for Him to bear, for He holds up worlds, He rules over all the affairs of the universe. Nothing that in any way concerns our peace is too small for Him to notice. There is no chapter in our experience too dark for Him to read; there is no perplexity too difficult for Him to unravel. No calamity can befall the least of His children, no anxiety harass the soul, no joy cheer, no sincere prayer escape the lips, of which our heavenly Father is unobservant, or in which He takes no immediate interest. “He heals the broken in heart, and binds up their wounds.” [Psalm 147:3] The relations between God and each soul are as distinct and full as though there were not another soul upon the earth to share His watchcare, not another soul for whom He gave His beloved Son.” —*Steps to Christ, page 100*

2. How did David express his thankfulness and praise for God's deliverance?

➤ **Psalm 56:9–13** —

NOTES : “While I was in Europe, a sister who... in deep distress, wrote to me, asking for some word of encouragement. The night after I had read her letter I dreamed that I was in a garden, and one who seemed to be the owner of the garden was conducting me through its paths. I was gathering the flowers and enjoying their fragrance, when this sister, who had been walking by my side, called my attention to some unsightly briars that were impeding her way. There she was mourning and grieving. She was not walking in the pathway, following the guide, but was walking among the briars and thorns. “Oh,” she mourned, “is it not a pity that this beautiful garden is spoiled with thorns?” Then the guide said, “Let the thorns alone, for they will only wound you. Gather the roses, the lilies, and the pinks.” Have there not been some bright spots in your experience? Have you not had some precious seasons when your heart throbbed with joy in response to the Spirit of God? When you look back into the chapters of your life experience, do you not find some pleasant pages? Are not God's promises, like the fragrant flowers, growing beside your path on every hand? Will you not let their beauty and sweetness fill your heart with joy? The briars and thorns will only wound and grieve you; and if you gather only these things, and present them to others, are you not, besides slighting the goodness of God yourself, preventing those around you from walking in the path of life? It is not wise to gather together all the unpleasant recollections of a past life, its iniquities and disappointments, to talk over them and mourn over them until we are overwhelmed with discouragement. A discouraged soul is filled with darkness, shutting out the light of God from his own soul and casting a shadow upon the pathway of others. Thank God for the bright pictures which He has presented to us. Let us group together the blessed assurances of His love, that we may look upon them continually:” —*Steps to Christ, pages 116-118*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sunday, June 15th, 2025

[Psalms 34:1-10]

- ☞ ¹ **A Psalm of David, when he changed his behaviour before Abimelech; who drove him away, and he departed.** I will bless The LORD at all times: His praise *shall* continually *be* in my mouth.
² My soul shall make her boast in The LORD: the humble shall hear *thereof*, and be glad.
³ O magnify The LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together.
⁴ I sought The LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.
⁵ They looked to Him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.
⁶ This poor man cried, and The LORD heard *him*, and saved him out of all his troubles.
⁷ The angel of The LORD encamps round about them that fear Him, and delivers them.
⁸ O taste and see that The LORD *is* good: blessed *is* the man *that* trusts in Him.
⁹ O fear The LORD, you his saints: for *there is* no want to them that fear Him.
¹⁰ The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek The LORD shall not want any good *thing*.

[Psalms 56:9-13]

- ☞ ⁹ When I cry *unto You*, then shall my enemies turn back: this I know; for God *is* for me.
¹⁰ In God will I praise *His* word: in The LORD will I praise *His* word.
¹¹ In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do to me.
¹² Your vows *are* upon me, O God: I will render praises to You.
¹³ For You have delivered my soul from death: *will* not *You deliver* my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?

[Psalms 147:3]

- ☞ ³ He heals the broken in heart, and binds up their wounds.

[James 5:11]

- ☞ ¹¹ Behold, we count them happy which endure. You have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of The Lord; that The Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, June 15th, 2025

*In Heavenly Places,
Chapter 5, p. 173*

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 15th

The Gold of Christian Character

A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

Proverbs 22:1

Men may aspire to renown. They may desire to possess a great name. With some the possession of houses and lands and plenty of money, that which will make them great according to the measure of the world, is the height of their ambition. They desire to reach the place where they can look down with a sense of superiority upon those who are poor. All such are building on the sand, and their house will fall suddenly. Superiority of position is not true greatness. That which does not increase the value of the soul is of no real value in itself. That which alone is worth obtaining is greatness of soul in the sight of Heaven. The true and exalted nature of your work you may never know. The value of your own being you can only measure by the value of that Life given to save all who will receive it.

Every man will have some estimate of his own worth when he becomes a labourer together with Christ, doing the work that Christ did, filling the world with Christ's righteousness, bearing a commission from the Most High.... The commission given to the disciples is given to all who are connected with Christ. They are to make any and every sacrifice for the joy of seeing souls saved who are perishing out of Christ....

The highest honour that can be conferred upon human beings, be they young or old, rich or poor, is to be permitted to lift up the oppressed, to comfort the feeble-minded. The world is full of suffering. Go, and preach the gospel to the poor; heal the sick. This is the work to be connected with the gospel message. *“The poor have the gospel preached to them.”* (Matthew 11:5) Co-laborers with God are to fill the space they occupy in the world with the love of Jesus.... The love of Christ in the heart is expressed in the actions. If love for Christ is dull the love for those for whom Christ died will degenerate....

True riches are genuine faith and genuine love. These make the character complete in Christ. If there were more faith, simple, trusting faith in Jesus, there would be love, pure love, which is the gold of Christian character.

Daily Scripture

Sunday, June 15th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 109

Help Me, O Lord My God

- Psa 109:1 **To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.** Hold not thy peace, O God of my praise;
- Psa 109:2 For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful are opened against me: they have spoken against me with a lying tongue.
- Psa 109:3 They compassed me about also with words of hatred; and fought against me without a cause.
- Psa 109:4 For my love they are my adversaries: but I *give myself unto* prayer.
- Psa 109:5 And they have rewarded me evil for good, and hatred for my love.
- Psa 109:6 Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand.
- Psa 109:7 When he shall be judged, let him be condemned: and let his prayer become sin.
- Psa 109:8 Let his days be few; *and* let another take his office.
- Psa 109:9 Let his children be fatherless, and his wife a widow.
- Psa 109:10 Let his children be continually vagabonds, and beg: let them seek *their bread* also out of their desolate places.
- Psa 109:11 Let the extortioner catch all that he has; and let the strangers spoil his labour.
- Psa 109:12 Let there be none to extend mercy unto him: neither let there be any to favour his fatherless children.
- Psa 109:13 Let his posterity be cut off; *and* in the generation following let their name be blotted out.
- Psa 109:14 Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered with the LORD; and let not the sin of his mother be blotted out.
- Psa 109:15 Let them be before the LORD continually, that he may cut off the memory of them from the earth.
- Psa 109:16 Because that he remembered not to shew mercy, but persecuted the poor and needy man, that he might even slay the broken in heart.
- Psa 109:17 As he loved cursing, so let it come unto him: as he delighted not in blessing, so let it be far from him.
- Psa 109:18 As he clothed himself with cursing like as with his garment, so let it come into his bowels like water, and like oil into his bones.
- Psa 109:19 Let it be unto him as the garment *which* covers him, and for a girdle wherewith he is girded continually.
- Psa 109:20 *Let this be* the reward of mine adversaries from the LORD, and of them that speak evil against my soul.
- Psa 109:21 But do thou for me, O GOD the Lord, for thy name's sake: because thy mercy *is* good, deliver thou me.
- Psa 109:22 For I *am* poor and needy, and my heart is wounded within me.
- Psa 109:23 I am gone like the shadow when it declines: I am tossed up and down as the locust.
- Psa 109:24 My knees are weak through fasting; and my flesh fails of fatness.
- Psa 109:25 I became also a reproach unto them: *when* they looked upon me they shook their heads.
- Psa 109:26 Help me, O LORD my God: O save me according to thy mercy:
- Psa 109:27 That they may know that this *is* thy hand; *that* thou, LORD, hast done it.
- Psa 109:28 Let them curse, but bless thou: when they arise, let them be ashamed; but let thy servant rejoice.
- Psa 109:29 Let mine adversaries be clothed with shame, and let them cover themselves with their own confusion, as with a mantle.
- Psa 109:30 I will greatly praise the LORD with my mouth; yea, I will praise him among the multitude.
- Psa 109:31 For he shall stand at the right hand of the poor, to save *him* from those that condemn his soul.

Monday – June 16th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 37:1–19; Psalm 46:1–11; Psalm 91:1-16; Matthew 10:19-20; Matthew 28:20;

1. How does the Psalmist express his confidence in God's protection?

➤ **Psalm 91:1-16** —

NOTES : “How graciously and tenderly our heavenly Father deals with His children! He preserves them from a thousand dangers to them unseen and guards them from the subtle arts of Satan, lest they should be destroyed. Because the protecting care of God through His angels is not seen by our dull vision, we do not try to contemplate and appreciate the ever-watchful interest that our kind and benevolent Creator has in the work of His hands; and we are not grateful for the multitude of mercies that He daily bestows upon us.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 3, page 373*

2. What special promises of protection does God give to His people?

➤ **Psalm 37:1–19** —

➤ **Psalm 46:1–11** —

NOTES : “You are now to get ready for the time of trial. Now you are to know whether your feet are planted on the eternal Rock. You must have an individual experience, and not depend upon others for your light. When you are brought to the test, how do you know that you will not be alone, with no earthly friend at your side? Will you then be able to realise that Christ is your support? Will you be able to recall the promise, “Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world?” [Matthew 28:20] There will be invisible ones all about you bent upon your destruction. Satan and his agents will seek in every way to make you waver from your steadfastness to God and His truth. But if you have an eye single to His glory, you need not take thought as to how you shall witness for His truth. “Take no thought how or what ye shall speak: . . . for it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaks in you.” [Matthew 10:19-20]”—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, April 26th, 1892*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Monday, June 16th, 2025

[Psalms 37:1-19]

- ☞ ¹ **A Psalm of David.** Fret not yourself because of evildoers, neither be you envious against the workers of iniquity.
- ² For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.
- ³ Trust in The LORD, and do good; *so* shall you dwell in the land, and truly you shall be fed.
- ⁴ Delight yourself also in The LORD; and He shall give you the desires of your heart.
- ⁵ Commit your way to The LORD; trust also in Him; and He shall bring *it* to pass.
- ⁶ And He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your judgment as the noonday.
- ⁷ Rest in The LORD, and wait patiently for Him: fret not yourself because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who brings wicked devices to pass.
- ⁸ Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not yourself in any wise to do evil.
- ⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon The LORD, they shall inherit the earth.
- ¹⁰ For yet a little while, and the wicked *shall not be*: yes, you shall diligently consider his place, and it *shall not be*.
- ¹¹ But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.
- ¹² The wicked plots against the just, and gnashes upon him with his teeth.
- ¹³ The Lord shall laugh at him: for He sees that his day is coming.
- ¹⁴ The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, *and* to slay such as be of upright conversation.
- ¹⁵ Their sword shall enter into their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.
- ¹⁶ A little that a righteous man has *is* better than the riches of many wicked.
- ¹⁷ For the arms of the wicked shall be broken: but The LORD upholds the righteous.
- ¹⁸ The LORD knows the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever.
- ¹⁹ They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.

[Psalms 46:1-11]

- ☞ ¹ **To the chief Musician for the sons of Korah, A Song upon Alamoth.** God *is* our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;
- ³ *Though* the waters thereof roar *and* be troubled, *though* the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.
- ⁴ *There is* a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy *place* of the tabernacles of The Most High.
- ⁵ God *is* in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, *and that* right early.
- ⁶ The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: He uttered His voice, the earth melted.
- ⁷ The LORD of Hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah.
- ⁸ Come, behold the works of The LORD, what desolations He has made in the earth.
- ⁹ He makes wars to cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow, and cuts the spear in sunder; He burns the chariot in the fire.
- ¹⁰ **Be still, and know that I *am* God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.**
- ¹¹ The LORD of Hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah.

[Psalms 91:1-16]

- ☞ ¹ He that dwells in the secret place of The Most High shall abide under the shadow of The Almighty.
- ² I will say of The LORD, *He is* my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.
- ³ Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler, *and* from the noisome pestilence.
- ⁴ He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings shall you trust: His truth *shall be your* shield and buckler.

- ⁵ You shall not be afraid for the terror by night; *nor* for the arrow *that* flies by day;
⁶ *Nor* for the pestilence *that* walks in darkness; *nor* for the destruction *that* wastes at noonday.
⁷ A thousand shall fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; *but* it shall not come nigh you.
⁸ Only with your eyes shall you behold and see the reward of the wicked.
⁹ Because you have made The LORD, *which is* my refuge, *even* The Most High, your habitation;
¹⁰ There shall no evil befall you, neither shall any plague come nigh your dwelling.
¹¹ For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.
¹² They shall bear you up in *their* hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.
¹³ You shall tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shall you trample under feet.
¹⁴ Because he has set His love upon Me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he has known My name.
¹⁵ He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him: I *will be* with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.
¹⁶ With long life will I satisfy him, and show him My salvation.

[Matthew 10:19-20]

- ☞ ¹⁹ But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what you shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what you shall speak.
²⁰ For it is not you that speaks, but The Spirit of your Father which speaks in you.

[Matthew 28:20]

- ☞ ²⁰ Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the world. Amen.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, June 16th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 174

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 16th

The Gift of Speech

Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.

Psalm 34:13

Speech is one of the great gifts of God. It is the means by which the thoughts of the heart are communicated. It is with the tongue that we offer prayer and praise to God. With the tongue we convince and persuade. With the tongue we comfort and bless, soothing the bruised, wounded soul. With the tongue we may make known the wonders of the grace of God. With the tongue also we may utter perverse things, speaking words that sting like an adder.

The tongue is a little member, but the words it frames have great power. The Lord declares, “*The tongue can no man tame.*” (James 3:8). It has set nation against nation and has caused war and bloodshed. Words have kindled fires that have been hard to quench....

Satan puts into the mind thoughts which the Christian should never utter. The scornful retort, the bitter, passionate utterance, the cruel, suspicious charge, are from him. How many words are spoken that do only harm to those who utter them and to those who hear! Hard words beat upon the heart, awaking to life its worst passions. Those who do evil with their tongues ... grieve the Holy Spirit; for they are working at cross purposes with God....

Guard well the talent of speech, for it is a mighty power for evil as well as for good. You cannot be too careful of what you say; for the words you utter show what power is controlling the heart. If Christ rules there, your words will reveal the beauty, purity, and fragrance of a character moulded and fashioned by His will. But if you are under the guidance of the enemy of all good, your words will echo his sentiments....

Only through Christ can we gain the victory over the desire to speak hasty, un-Christlike words. When in His strength we refuse to give utterance to Satan’s suggestions, the plant of bitterness in our hearts withers and dies. The Holy Spirit can make the tongue a savour of life unto life.

God wants us to be a help and strength to one another. He wants us to speak words of hope and courage.

Daily Scripture

Monday, June 16th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 110

Sit at My Right Hand

- Psa 110:1 **A Psalm of David.** The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.
- Psa 110:2 The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.
- Psa 110:3 Thy people *shall be* willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth.
- Psa 110:4 The LORD has sworn, and will not repent, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.
- Psa 110:5 The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath.
- Psa 110:6 He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill *the places* with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries.
- Psa 110:7 He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift up the head.

Tuesday – June 17th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : 1 Samuel 12:22; 1 Kings 18:36; Psalm 38:15-16; Psalm 94:14; Psalm 94:17–18; Psalm 125:2;

1. On whom did the Psalmist call in times of emergency?

➤ Psalm 94:17–18 —

➤ Psalm 38:15-16 —

NOTES : “God will do marvellous things for those who trust in Him. It is because His professed people trust so much to their own wisdom, and do not give the Lord an opportunity to reveal His power in their behalf, that they have no more strength. He will help His believing children in every emergency if they will place their entire confidence in Him and implicitly obey Him.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 4, page 163*

2. To whom are these promises of protection and help especially addressed?

➤ 1 Samuel 12:22 —

➤ Psalm 125:2 —

➤ Psalm 94:14 —

NOTES : “The obligations in the spiritual agreement entered into at baptism are mutual. As human beings act their part with wholehearted obedience, they have a right to pray: “Let it be known, Lord, this day that You are God in Israel.” [1 Kings 18:36] The fact that you have been baptised in the name of The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit is an assurance that, if you will claim Their help, these powers will help you in every emergency. The Lord will hear and answer the prayers of His sincere followers who wear Christ’s yoke and learn in His school His meekness and lowliness.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 6, page 99*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, June 17th, 2025

[1 Samuel 12:22]

☞ ²² For The LORD will not forsake His people for His great name's sake: because it has pleased The LORD to make you His people.

[1 Kings 18:36]

☞ ³⁶ And it came to pass at *the time of* the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that You *are* God in Israel, and *that I am* Your servant, and *that* I have done all these things at Your word.

[Psalms 38:15-16]

☞ ¹⁵ For in You, O LORD, do I hope: You will hear, O Lord my God.

¹⁶ For I said, *Hear me*, lest *otherwise* they should rejoice over me: when my foot slips, they magnify *themselves* against me.

[Psalms 94:14]

☞ ¹⁴ For The LORD will not cast off His people, neither will He forsake His inheritance.

[Psalms 94:17-18]

☞ ¹⁷ Unless The LORD *had been* my help, my soul had almost dwelt in silence.

¹⁸ When I said, My foot slips; Your mercy, O LORD, held me up.

[Psalms 125:2]

☞ ² As the mountains *are* round about Jerusalem, so The LORD *is* round about His people from henceforth even for ever.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, June 17th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 175

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 17th

Educating the Tongue

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

Ephesians 4:29

The apostle, seeing the inclination to abuse the gift of speech, gives direction concerning its use. *“Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth,”* he says, *“but that which is good to the use of edifying.”* The word “corrupt” means here any word that would make an impression detrimental to holy principles and undefiled religion, any communication that would eclipse the view of Christ, and blot from the mind true sympathy and love. It includes impure hints, which, unless instantly resisted, lead to great sin. Upon everyone is laid the duty of barring the way against corrupt communications.

It is God’s purpose that the glory of Christ shall appear in His children. In all His teaching Christ presented pure, unadulterated principles. He did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth. Constantly there flowed from His lips holy, ennobling truths. He spoke as never man spoke, with a pathos that touched the heart.... The truth never languished on His lips. With fearlessness He exposed the hypocrisy of priest and ruler, Pharisee and Sadducee....

The great responsibility bound up in the use of the gift of speech is plainly made known in the Word of God. *“By thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.”* (Matthew 12:37), Christ declared. And the psalmist asks, *“Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walks uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart. He that backbites not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour.”* (Psalm 15:1-3)

Cultivate a prayerful frame of mind and educate the tongue to speak right words, that will bless in the place of discouraging.... Talk of the goodness, the mercy, and the love of God. Put away all unbelieving words and all that is cheap and common. Let the words be sound words, that cannot be condemned, and the peace of God will surely come to the soul.

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, June 17th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 111

Great Are the Lord's Works

- Psa 111:1 Praise ye the LORD. I will praise the LORD with *my* whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and *in* the congregation.
- Psa 111:2 The works of the LORD *are* great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.
- Psa 111:3 His work *is* honourable and glorious: and his righteousness endures for ever.
- Psa 111:4 He has made his wonderful works to be remembered: the LORD *is* gracious and full of compassion.
- Psa 111:5 He has given meat unto them that fear him: he will ever be mindful of his covenant.
- Psa 111:6 He has shewed his people the power of his works, that he may give them the heritage of the heathen.
- Psa 111:7 The works of his hands *are* verity and judgment; all his commandments *are* sure.
- Psa 111:8 They stand fast for ever and ever, *and are* done in truth and uprightness.
- Psa 111:9 He sent redemption unto his people: he has commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend *is* his name.
- Psa 111:10 The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do *his commandments*: his praise endures for ever.

Wednesday – June 18th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : 1 Kings 3:6–9; Psalm 32:8; Isaiah 30:21;

1. What promise of guidance in times of perplexity does God give us?

➤ **Isaiah 30:21** —

NOTES : “Let every child of God make Him their Counsellor, and firmly believe that He is at their right hand to help them, trusting the promise, “I will guide thee with Mine eye.” [Psalm 32:8] So many mistakes would not be made if all would make God their dependence, believing that He who never makes a mistake will prepare their way before them. We must believe in Christ as a personal, sympathising Saviour, who doeth all things well. Our path, however rugged it may be, is marked out for us by the Lord; but He will walk with us, for we are to be co-labourers with Him, guided by the Holy Spirit. “And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and to the left.” [Isaiah 30:21]” —*Pacific Union Recorder, November 7th, 1901*

2. With what attitude did Solomon seek the Lord's guidance?

➤ **1 Kings 3:6–9** —

NOTES : “Christ will not undertake to teach the self-righteous, self-conceited, and self-willed. If such come to Him with the inquiry, What is truth? He gives them no answer. It is only the meek that He will guide in judgement; the meek will He teach His way. Solomon was naturally endowed with good judgement and large reasoning powers, but he acknowledged himself before God as a little child. He sought for wisdom from God with humility, and he sought not in vain... If you are searching the Scriptures and different authors that you may find doctrines which will coincide with your own preconceived opinions, and if you have already settled your faith, then you will be boastful, self-confident, and unyielding.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 3, page 449*

3. Heaven's Hotline

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Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, June 18th, 2025

[1 Kings 3:6-9]

- ☞ ⁶ And Solomon said, You have showed to your servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before You in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; and You have kept for him this great kindness, that You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as *it is* this day.
- ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king instead of David my father: and I *am but* a little child: I know not *how* to go out or come in.
- ⁸ And Your servant *is* in the midst of Your people which You have chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.
- ⁹ Give therefore Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this Your so great a people?

[Psalms 32:8]

- ☞ ⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you shall go: I will guide you with My eye.

[Isaiah 30:21]

- ☞ ²¹ And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This *is* the way, walk you in it, when you turn to the right hand, and when you turn to the left.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, June 18th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 176

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 18th

Don't Retaliate!

Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing; but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.

1 Peter 3:9

Be determined not to please the enemy by allowing words of unfavourable criticism to lead you to retaliate or to depress you. Make the enemy's efforts a failure so far as you are concerned. Then the Lord will draw near to you and will give you a rich measure of love and peace and joy so deep and full that even in the midst of the trial of your faith you can bear triumphant witness to the truth of the word of promise. You will have a sense of the divine presence. The eyes of your understanding will be enlightened, and the truth that at times you have seen but dimly you will then see clearly. You will be able to tell the story of the cross with a deep appreciation of the Saviour's love, for this love will have melted your heart. You will bear about with you in the daily life the witness that Christ is formed within, the hope of glory.

Look constantly to Jesus. Take all your troubles to Him. He will never misunderstand you. He is the refuge of His people. Under the shadow of His protection they can pass unharmed. Believe in Him and trust in Him. He will not give you up to the spoiler.

Let the atmosphere surrounding your soul be sweet and fragrant. If you will battle against selfish human nature, you will go steadily forward in the work of overcoming hereditary and cultivated tendencies to wrong. By patience, long-suffering, and forbearance you will accomplish much. Remember that you cannot be humiliated by the unwise speeches of someone else, but that when you speak unwisely you humiliate yourself and lose a victory that you might have gained....

Keep yourselves where the three great powers of heaven—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—can be your efficiency. These powers work with the one who gives himself unreservedly to God. The strength of heaven is at the command of God's believing ones. The man who makes God his trust is barricaded by an impregnable wall.

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, June 18th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 112

The Righteous Will Never Be Moved

- Psa 112:1 Praise ye the LORD. Blessed *is* the man *that* fears the LORD, *that* delights greatly in his commandments.
- Psa 112:2 His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.
- Psa 112:3 Wealth and riches *shall be* in his house: and his righteousness endures for ever.
- Psa 112:4 Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness: *he is* gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.
- Psa 112:5 A good man shows favour, and lends: he will guide his affairs with discretion.
- Psa 112:6 Surely he shall not be moved for ever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.
- Psa 112:7 He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD.
- Psa 112:8 His heart *is* established, he shall not be afraid, until he see *his desire* upon his enemies.
- Psa 112:9 He has dispersed, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.
- Psa 112:10 The wicked shall see *it*, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish.

Thursday – June 19th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Hebrews 2:17–18; Hebrews 4:15;

1. What particular help is Christ qualified to offer?

➤ **Hebrews 2:17–18** —

NOTES : “From the light of His exalted purity, the world’s Redeemer could see that the maladies from which the human family were suffering were brought upon them by transgression of the law of God. Every case of suffering He could trace back to its source. In every case He read the sad and awful end of unrepenting sinners. He knew that He alone could rescue them from the pit into which they had fallen. He alone could place their feet in the right path; His perfection alone could avail for their imperfection. He alone could cover their nakedness with His spotless robe of righteousness. . . . He is strong to deliver. Help has been laid on One that is mighty. He encircles man with His long human arm, while with His divine arm He lays hold of Omnipotence.” —*Sons and Daughters of God*, page 25

2. How can we know that Christ truly understands and appreciates our experience in times of temptation?

➤ **Hebrews 4:15** —

NOTES : “Let us remember that Jesus knows us individually and is touched with the feeling of our infirmities. He knows the wants of each of His creatures and reads the hidden, unspoken grief of every heart. If one of the little ones for whom He died is injured, He sees it and calls the offender to account. Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He cares for His feeble, sickly, wandering sheep. He knows them all by name. The distress of every sheep and every lamb of His flock touches His heart of sympathising love, and the cry for aid reaches His ear.” —*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5*, page 345

3. Heaven’s Hotline

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Lesson Scripture

Thursday, June 19th, 2025

[Hebrews 2:17-18]

- ↳ ¹⁷ Wherefore in all things it behoved Him to be made like unto *His* brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.
¹⁸ For in that He Himself has suffered being tempted, He is able to succour them that are tempted.

[Hebrews 4:15]

- ↳ ¹⁵ For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are, yet* without sin.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, June 19th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 177

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 19th

Fragrant in Word

But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Matthew 12:36, 37.

As the prophet Isaiah beheld the glory of the Lord, he was amazed, and overwhelmed with a sense of his own weakness and unworthiness, he cried, “*Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.*” (Isaiah 6:5).... Let every soul who claims to be a son or a daughter of God examine himself in the light of Heaven; let him consider the polluted lips that make him “undone.” They are the medium of communication.... Then let them not be used in bringing from the treasure of the heart words that will dishonour God and discourage those around you, but use them for the praise and glory of God, who has formed them for this purpose.... When the love of Jesus is the theme of contemplation, the words coming from human lips will be full of praise and thanksgiving to God and to the Lamb.

How many words are spoken in lightness and foolishness, in jesting and joking! This would not be so did the followers of Christ realize the truth of the words, “Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.” ...

The vision given to Isaiah represents the condition of God’s people in the last days.... As they look by faith into the holy of holies, and see the work of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary, they perceive that they are a people of unclean lips—a people whose lips have often spoken vanity and whose talents have not been sanctified and employed to the glory of God.... If they will humble their souls before God, there is hope for them. The bow of promise is above the throne, and the work done for Isaiah will be performed in them.

Be fragrant in your words. Remember that you are either a savour of life unto life or of death unto death. Let us be as fragrant flowers. Let the love of Christ pervade your lives. Let your words be such that they will be as apples of gold in pictures of silver.

Daily Scripture

Thursday, June 19th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 113

Who Is like the Lord Our God?

- Psa 113:1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise, O ye servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD.
Psa 113:2 Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore.
Psa 113:3 From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD'S name *is* to be praised.
Psa 113:4 The LORD *is* high above all nations, *and* his glory above the heavens.
Psa 113:5 Who *is* like unto the LORD our God, who dwells on high,
Psa 113:6 Who humbles *himself* to behold *the things that are* in heaven, and in the earth!
Psa 113:7 He raises up the poor out of the dust, *and* lifts the needy out of the dunghill;
Psa 113:8 That he may set *him* with princes, *even* with the princes of his people.
Psa 113:9 He makes the barren woman to keep house, *and to be* a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the LORD.

Preparation Day – June 20th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : 1 Corinthians 10:13; Jude 1:24;

1. Can we certain that Christ has the power to keep us from falling and to keep us faultless?

➤ **Jude 1:24** —

NOTES : “God has made it our duty to pray. The riches of the universe belong to Him. He has all temporal and spiritual treasures at His command, and can supply every want from His abundant fullness. We receive our breath from Him; every temporal blessing that we enjoy is His gift. We are dependent upon Him not only for temporal blessings, but for grace and strength to keep us from falling under the power of temptation. We daily need the Bread of Life to give us spiritual strength and vigour, just as much as we need food to sustain our physical strength and give us firm muscles. We are compassed with weakness and infirmities, doubts and temptations; but we can come to Jesus in our need, and He will not turn us away empty.” —*Bible Echo, September 24th, 1894*

2. Upon which two promises especially may we depend in times of temptation?

➤ **1 Corinthians 10:13** —

NOTES : “Our heavenly Father measures and weighs every trial before He permits it to come upon the believer. He considers the circumstances and the strength of the one who is to stand under the proving and test of God, and He never permits the temptations to be greater than the capacity of resistance. If the soul is overborne, the person overpowered, this can never be charged to God, ... but the one tempted was not vigilant and prayerful and did not appropriate by faith the provisions God had abundantly in store for him. Christ never failed a believer in his hour of combat.” —*Our High Calling, page 323*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, June 20th, 2025

[1 Corinthians 10:13]

- ↳ ¹³ There has no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that you may be able to bear *it*.

[Jude 1:24]

- ↳ ²⁴ Now to Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, June 20th, 2025

*In Heavenly Places,
Chapter 5, p. 178*

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 20th

Loyal to One Another

Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice.

Ephesians 4:31

There are those who think more highly of themselves than they ought to think. They speak evil of their brethren because after a thing is done they can look back and tell how differently they would have done it, but their forethought would not have been any better than that of their brethren had they been in their place....

Keep yourselves off the judgment seat. All judgment is committed unto the Son of God.... Satan works zealously to cause men to offend on this point. Those whose tongues are so free to utter words of criticism, the adroit questioner who draws out expressions and opinions which have been put into minds by sowing seeds of alienation, are his missionaries. They may repeat the expressions they draw from others as originating with the ones they so slyly led on to forbidden ground. These persons seem always to see something to criticize and condemn.... Their tongues are ready to exaggerate everything evil. What a great matter a little fire kindles!

Never let your tongue and voice be employed in discovering and dilating upon the defects of your brethren, for the record of heaven identifies Christ's interests with those He has purchased with His own blood. “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren,” He says, “ye have done it unto me” (Matthew 25:40). We are to learn to be loyal to one another, to be true as steel in the defence of our brethren. Look to your own defects. You had better discover one of your own faults than ten of your brother's. Remember that Christ has prayed for these, His brethren, that they all might be one as He is one with the Father. Seek to the uttermost of your capabilities to be in harmony with your brethren to the extent of Christ's measurement, as He is one with the Father....

“Love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous.” (1 Peter 3:8). True moral worth does not seek to have a place for itself by evil thinking and evil speaking, by demeriting others. All envy, all jealousy, all evil speaking, with all unbelief, must be put away from God's children.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, June 20th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 114

Tremble at the Presence of the Lord

- Psa 114:1 When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language;
Psa 114:2 Judah was his sanctuary, *and* Israel his dominion.
Psa 114:3 The sea saw *it*, and fled: Jordan was driven back.
Psa 114:4 The mountains skipped like rams, *and* the little hills like lambs.
Psa 114:5 What *ailed* thee, O thou sea, that thou fled? thou Jordan, *that* thou wast driven back?
Psa 114:6 Ye mountains, *that* ye skipped like rams; *and* ye little hills, like lambs?
Psa 114:7 Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob;
Psa 114:8 Which turned the rock *into* a standing water, the flint into a fountain of waters.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, June 20th, 2025



A little girl studying at the jungle mission school told her teacher, Armi, about a mother who couldn't walk.

Armi hadn't come to the mountains of Papua, Indonesia, to treat anyone. He wasn't a doctor, and he didn't know much about medicine. He was a missionary who had come to the jungle mission school to teach children about Jesus, the Master Physician. But his heart was touched when he heard about the mother who couldn't walk. He and a fellow missionary decided to hike eight hours up the mountain to visit the woman in her remote village.

Armi and his friend found the mother in a small grass hut. She was crying in pain on a bed. Her right knee had an open wound and it was swollen.

Armi and his friend couldn't understand much of what she said. She couldn't understand much of what they said. They spoke different dialects. But, through hand gestures, the mother explained that she had fallen out of a tree seven years earlier and hadn't been able to walk since. The village was so remote that doctors and hospitals were not an option. After the fall, her husband abandoned her, leaving her to raise four children.

The mother was glad for the visit. She had lost all hope. She made it clear that she was placing her new hope on Armi and his friend.

“Help me to walk again,” she pleaded.

Armi and his friend stepped outside of the hut. They needed to pray to the Master Physician.

“Lord please give us wisdom,” Armi said. “Show us how to help this woman even though we don't know much about medicine.”

Back inside the hut, Armi and his friend carefully cleaned the wound. Beads of sweat broke out on their faces. They were worried about making the wound worse. Neighbors gathered in the hut to watch, and Armi and his

friend really began to sweat. They wondered if their lives might be at risk with the neighbors watching their every move.

Then Armi spoke to the woman about Jesus.

“Only one Person can heal you,” he said, using hand gestures to help her understand. “That one Person is Jesus.”

The mother had never heard of Jesus. None of the neighbors had ever heard about Jesus. They practiced a form of mysticism.

“I don’t know anything about your Jesus,” the mother said. “But I’ll accept whoever can restore my health.”

After cleaning the wound, Armi offered the only natural remedies that he had in his backpack: charcoal and Vitamin C tablets. He then invited the mother and neighbors to pray. Opening his eyes, Armi saw that the mother and neighbors were crying. He panicked, wondering what was wrong. The neighbors, who also didn’t speak his dialect, explained the prayer had moved their hearts.

“It was like someone was interpreting your prayer into our ears,” one said.

“We could feel a presence surrounding us while you were praying,” said another.

Then Armi turned and saw the mother’s face. It had changed completely. Once a picture of pain and suffering, it now was glowing with joy and peace.

Armi promised to return the next week to check on her progress.

Armi and his friend hiked the eight hours back home. As they hiked, they prayed. How could they make a phone call to get medical information to help the mother? Where could they find a cell-phone signal? They were living in the mountains and had not received a cell-phone signal in months.

Pray for the unreached people of Papua, Indonesia. Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help construct classrooms, an administrative building, a library, and an auditorium for Papua Adventist Theology College. The college moved to Nabire after its previous campus was destroyed by a flood in another part of Papua in 2019. Currently, students meet in borrowed classrooms at an Adventist academy. Thank you for planning a generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to support the college next week. Find out the rest of Armi’s story next week.

By Andrew McChesney

LESSON 13

“KING OF KINGS”

June 21 — June 27

MEMORY VERSE : *“These shall make war with The Lamb, and The Lamb shall overcome them: for He is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with Him are called, and chosen, and faithful.” [Revelation 17:14]*

STUDY HELP : ✓ Early Writings, page 285-289

INTRODUCTION : “When Christ shall come to the earth again, not as a prisoner surrounded by a rabble will men see Him. They will see Him then as heaven's King. Christ will come in His own glory, in the glory of His Father, and the glory of the holy angels. “Ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands” [Revelation 5:11] of angels, the beautiful and triumphant sons of God, possessing surpassing loveliness and glory, will escort Him on His way. Then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory, and before Him shall be gathered all nations. Then every eye shall see Him, and they also that pierced Him. In the place of a crown of thorns, He will wear a crown of glory, a crown within a crown. In place of that old purple kingly robe, He will be clothed in raiment of whitest white, “so as no fuller on earth can white them.” [Mark 9:3] And “on His vesture and on His thigh a name will be written, King of kings, and Lord of lords.” [Revelation 19:16]—*The Desire of Ages, page 739*

Sabbath – June 21st

LESSON SCRIPTURE : Psalm 10:16 ; Mark 9:3; Revelation 5:11; Revelation 19:16;

1. What proclamation will finally be made?

➤ Psalm 10:16 —

2. Heaven's Hotline:

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sabbath, June 21st, 2025

[Psalms 10:16]

↳ ¹⁶ The LORD *is* King for ever and ever: the heathen are perished out of His land.

[Mark 9:3]

↳ ³ And His raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them.

[Revelation 5:11]

↳ ¹¹ And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

[Revelation 19:16]

↳ ¹⁶ And He has on *His* vesture and on His thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

E. G. W. Study Help

Sabbath, June 21st, 2025

Early Writings Chapter 54, p. 285-289

“Deliverance of The Saints & The Saints Reward”

It was at midnight that God chose to deliver His people. As the wicked were mocking around them, suddenly the sun appeared, shining in his strength, and the moon stood still. The wicked looked upon the scene with amazement, while the saints beheld with solemn joy the tokens of their deliverance. Signs and wonders followed in quick succession. Everything seemed turned out of its natural course. The streams ceased to flow. Dark, heavy clouds came up and clashed against each other. But there was one clear place of settled glory, whence came the voice of God like many waters, shaking the heavens and the earth. There was a mighty earthquake. The graves were opened, and those who had died in faith under the third angel's message, keeping the Sabbath, came forth from their dusty beds, glorified, to hear the covenant of peace that God was to make with those who had kept His law.

The sky opened and shut and was in commotion. The mountains shook like a reed in the wind and cast out ragged rocks all around. The sea boiled like a pot and cast out stones upon the land. And as God spoke the day and the hour of Jesus' coming and delivered the everlasting covenant to His people, He spoke one sentence, and then paused, while the words were rolling through the earth. The Israel of God stood with their eyes fixed upward, listening to the words as they came from the mouth of Jehovah and rolled through the earth like peals of loudest thunder. It was awfully solemn. At the end of every sentence the saints shouted, "Glory! Hallelujah!" Their countenances were lighted up with the glory of God, and they shone with glory as did the face of Moses when he came down from Sinai. The wicked could not look upon them for the glory. And when the never-ending blessing was pronounced on those who had honoured God in keeping His Sabbath holy, there was a mighty shout of victory over the beast and over his image.

Then commenced the jubilee, when the land should rest. I saw the pious slave rise in victory and triumph, and shake off the chains that bound him, while his wicked master was in confusion and knew not what to do; for the wicked could not understand the words of the voice of God.

Soon appeared the great white cloud, upon which sat the Son of man. When it first appeared in the distance, this cloud looked very small. The angel said that it was the sign of the Son of man. As it drew nearer the earth, we could behold the excellent glory and majesty of Jesus as He rode forth to conquer. A retinue of holy angels, with bright, glittering crowns upon their heads, escorted Him on His way. No language can describe the glory of the scene. The living cloud of majesty and unsurpassed glory came still nearer, and we could clearly behold the lovely person of Jesus. He did not wear a crown of thorns, but a crown of glory rested upon His holy brow. Upon His vesture and thigh was a name written, King of kings, and Lord of lords. His countenance was as bright as the noonday sun, His eyes were as a flame of fire, and His feet had the appearance of fine brass. His voice sounded like many musical instruments. The earth trembled before Him, the heavens departed as a scroll when it is rolled together, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. "And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every freeman, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Those who a short time before would have destroyed God's faithful children from the earth, now witnessed the glory of God which rested upon them. And amid all their terror they heard the voices of the saints in joyful strains, saying, "Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us."

The earth mightily shook as the voice of the Son of God called forth the sleeping saints. They responded to the call and came forth clothed with glorious immortality, crying, "Victory, victory, over death and the grave! O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" Then the living saints and the risen ones raised their voices in a long, transporting shout of victory. Those bodies that had gone down into the grave bearing the marks of disease

and death came up in immortal health and vigour. The living saints are changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, and caught up with the risen ones, and together they meet their Lord in the air. Oh, what a glorious meeting! Friends whom death had separated were united, never more to part.

On each side of the cloudy chariot were wings, and beneath it were living wheels; and as the chariot rolled upward, the wheels cried, "Holy," and the wings, as they moved, cried, "Holy," and the retinue of holy angels around the cloud cried, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!" And the saints in the cloud cried, "Glory! Alleluia!" And the chariot rolled upward to the Holy City. Before entering the city, the saints were arranged in a perfect square, with Jesus in the midst. He stood head and shoulders above the saints and above the angels. His majestic form and lovely countenance could be seen by all in the square.

The Saints' Reward

Then I saw a very great number of angels bring from the city glorious crowns--a crown for every saint, with his name written thereon. As Jesus called for the crowns, angels presented them to Him, and with His own right hand, the lovely Jesus placed the crowns on the heads of the saints. In the same manner the angels brought the harps, and Jesus presented them also to the saints. The commanding angels first struck the note, and then every voice was raised in grateful, happy praise, and every hand skilfully swept over the strings of the harp, sending forth melodious music in rich and perfect strains. Then I saw Jesus lead the redeemed company to the gate of the city. He laid hold of the gate and swung it back on its glittering hinges and bade the nations that had kept the truth enter in. Within the city there was everything to feast the eye. Rich glory they beheld everywhere. Then Jesus looked upon His redeemed saints; their countenances were radiant with glory; and as He fixed His loving eyes upon them, He said, with His rich, musical voice, "I behold the travail of My soul, and am satisfied. This rich glory is yours to enjoy eternally. Your sorrows are ended. There shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain." I saw the redeemed host bow and cast their glittering crowns at the feet of Jesus, and then, as His lovely hand raised them up, they touched their golden harps and filled all heaven with their rich music and songs to the Lamb.

I then saw Jesus leading His people to the tree of life, and again we heard His lovely voice, richer than any music that ever fell on mortal ear, saying, "The leaves of this tree are for the healing of the nations. Eat ye all of it." Upon the tree of life was most beautiful fruit, of which the saints could partake freely. In the city was a most glorious throne, from which proceeded a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal. On each side of this river was the tree of life, and on the banks of the river were other beautiful trees bearing fruit which was good for food.

Language is altogether too feeble to attempt a description of heaven. As the scene rises before me, I am lost in amazement. Carried away with the surpassing splendour and excellent glory, I lay down the pen, and exclaim, "Oh, what love! what wondrous love!" The most exalted language fails to describe the glory of heaven or the matchless depths of a Saviour's love.

In Heavenly Places

Sabbath, June 21st, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 179

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 21st

The Power of Truthfulness

The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

Proverbs 12:19

There are those who have so closely identified themselves with the truth that nothing, not even martyrdom and death, could sever them from it. Those who would evade the truth by silence, fearing to offend someone else, testify to a lie. Playing fast and loose with truth and dissembling to suit the opinions of someone else, means the shipwreck of faith. Let us despise falsifying. Let us never by a word or act or by silence testify to a lie....

All who make untruthful statements ... are serving him who has been a liar from the beginning. Let us be on our guard against untruthfulness, which grows upon him who practices it. I say to all, make truth your girdle. Be true to your faith. Put away all prevarication and exaggeration. Never make a false statement. For the sake of your own soul and the souls of others, be true in your utterances. Never speak or act a falsehood. The truth alone will bear to be repeated. A firm adherence to truth is essential to the formation of Christian character. *“Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness.”* (Ephesians 6:14)

He who utters untruths sells his soul in a cheap market. His falsehoods may seem to serve in emergencies. He may make business advancement because he gains by falsehood what he could not gain by fair dealing. But he finally reaches the place where he can trust no one. Himself a falsifier, he has no confidence in the word of others.

There is absolutely no safeguard against evil but truth. No man can stand firm for right in whose heart the truth does not abide. There is only one power that can make and keep us steadfast—the power of God, imparted to us through the grace of Christ.

Connected with Christ, human nature becomes true and pure. Christ supplies the efficiency, and man becomes a power for good.... Truthfulness and integrity are attributes of God, and he who possesses these qualities possesses a power that is invincible.

Daily Scripture

Sabbath, June 21st, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 115

To Your Name Give Glory

- Psa 115:1 Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, *and* for thy truth's sake.
- Psa 115:2 Wherefore should the heathen say, Where *is* now their God?
- Psa 115:3 But our God *is* in the heavens: he has done whatsoever he has pleased.
- Psa 115:4 Their idols *are* silver and gold, the work of men's hands.
- Psa 115:5 They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not:
- Psa 115:6 They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not:
- Psa 115:7 They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat.
- Psa 115:8 They that make them are like unto them; *so is* every one that trusts in them.
- Psa 115:9 O Israel, trust thou in the LORD: he *is* their help and their shield.
- Psa 115:10 O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD: he *is* their help and their shield.
- Psa 115:11 Ye that fear the LORD, trust in the LORD: he *is* their help and their shield.
- Psa 115:12 The LORD has been mindful of us: he will bless *us*; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron.
- Psa 115:13 He will bless them that fear the LORD, *both* small and great.
- Psa 115:14 The LORD shall increase you more and more, you and your children.
- Psa 115:15 Ye *are* blessed of the LORD which made heaven and earth.
- Psa 115:16 The heaven, *even* the heavens, *are* the LORD'S: but the earth has he given to the children of men.
- Psa 115:17 The dead praise not the LORD, neither any that go down into silence.
- Psa 115:18 But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the LORD.



This is a story about a miracle on a *jukung*.

A *jukung* is a traditional Indonesian boat. It looks like an ordinary canoe — it is long and narrow and often made of wood. On each side of the boat are long floats called outriggers. The outriggers help the boat keep its balance on the water and not tip over. In the back of the *jukung* is a powerful outboard engine that propels the boat forward.

The *jukung* in this story looked like any regular *jukung*. It wasn’t a special color. It wasn’t a special length. It didn’t have a special outboard engine.

But it had a special passenger.

Pastor Eduard saw the *jukung* arrive at the island where he lived. He saw government medical workers get off the boat and visit his village. Then he saw the medical workers preparing to leave on the *jukung*. He asked where they were going and learned that they were traveling to an island where he wanted to go. On the island lived three Seventh-day Adventist families who didn’t have their own church. They also didn’t have their own boats to travel to an island with a church. They met in one of their homes to worship on Sabbath. But now it was the end of the quarter when they would wash each other’s feet, drink grape juice, and eat unleavened bread to remember Jesus’ death as part of the communion service. They wanted Pastor Eduard to come and worship with them.

Pastor Eduard didn’t have a boat of his own, so he asked the medical workers if he could travel with them on their *jukung* to the island.

They agreed, and the *jukung* set off on Friday morning.

Rooooooooooooaaarrrrrr! The *jukung* sped across the surface of the water. The wind felt good on Pastor Eduard’s face. He looked forward to worshipping with the villagers.

But then a storm struck. The rain fell in torrents. The wind blew fiercely. But the boat kept speeding through the rough waters.

Rooooooooooooooooarrrrrr!

Suddenly the *Rooooooooooooooooarrrrrr!* stopped. The engine fell silent. Pastor Eduard and the medical workers and the boat captain looked at one another. All they could hear was the pounding of the rain and the howling of the wind.

The boat captain yanked on a cord to try to restart the engine. Nothing happened. He tried again. *Yank! Yank!* Nothing happened.

The jukung stopped speeding across the water. Now it was at the mercy of the wind and the waves. It tossed back and forth like a cork on the water. An hour passed. Then two hours. Three hours. Four hours.

The medical workers were very scared. All were crying. They had heard stories about boats sinking in storms, and they were afraid that they were going to die. One woman abruptly cried out, “The blood of Jesus! The blood of Jesus!”

Pastor Eduard turned to see who was calling on Jesus for help. He was astonished to see that it was a woman who

wasn’t even a Christian. She didn’t believe in Jesus. But in her fear, she was calling on Jesus.

The woman saw Pastor Eduard looking at her. She remembered that he was a Christian who believed in Jesus, and she begged him to pray for the jukung.

“I have done my part to call upon the name of Jesus,” she said. “Now you, as a pastor, call on Jesus so we can be saved.”

At that moment, Pastor Eduard heard another voice. The voice was soft and gentle. Yet he could hear it above the roar of the rain and wind. It said, “Tell the boat captain to connect the fuel hose to the other fuel tank.”

On the jukung were two fuel tanks, a regular fuel tank and a back-up fuel tank for emergencies. The tanks provided fuel for the boat engine to run.

Pastor Eduard was surprised to hear the voice, but he didn’t argue. He felt like he had to obey. Even though he didn’t know anything about boats, he went to the captain and told him to remove the fuel hose from the regular fuel tank and connect it to the back-up fuel tank.

The captain had already tried connecting the hose to the back-up fuel tank. But he didn’t argue. He also felt like he had to obey. He immediately pulled the hose out of the regular fuel tank and connected it to the back-up tank.

Then Pastor Eduard called the captain and medical workers to join him in praying to Jesus. The medical workers

stopped crying as they strained their ears to listen to the prayer.

“Lord Jesus, our lives really are in Your hands of mercy,” the pastor prayed. “Your will be done.”

Then he turned to the captain. “Start the engine,” he said.

The captain pulled the cord to restart the outboard engine. *Yank!*

A split second passed, and the engine sprang to life. *Chuff-chuff-chuff rrrOOOAAARRR!*

All the medical workers, including the woman who did not believe in Jesus, exclaimed at the same time, “Praise the Lord!”

The rain didn't stop, and the wind didn't die down. But the engine kept roaring, and the jukung reached the island safely.

The medical workers immediately told everyone on the island that Jesus had saved their lives.

“It's because of the name of Jesus,” said the woman who didn't believe in Jesus. “When we called upon the name of Jesus, God helped us to get through this.”

She told Pastor Eduard that now she believes in Jesus.

“Now I know that Jesus is not only a teacher and a prophet but that He is God and has control of nature. Jesus is the One who brought us safely home.”

That Sabbath was an extra-special day for Pastor Eduard. Not only did he celebrate communion on the island, but he also had his own special mission story to tell.

Today is also the end of the quarter, and part of today's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help people in Indonesia know about the God who hears prayers. Your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open Papua Adventist Theology College in Nabire, Indonesia. It also will go toward a preschool in Myanmar, a Life Hope center of influence in Myanmar, and a health clinic in Brunei. Thank you so much for your generous offering today.

By Andrew McChesney

Sunday – June 22nd

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Daniel 2:44; Matthew 24:24-27; Matthew 24:30-31; Matthew 25:31; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Revelation 1:7;

1. How is the kingdom of God described by the prophet Daniel?

➤ **Daniel 2:44** —

NOTES : “Our kingdom is not of this world. We are waiting for our Lord from heaven to come to earth to put down all authority and power, and set up His everlasting kingdom. Earthly powers are shaken. We need not, and cannot, expect union among the nations of the earth. Our position in the image of Nebuchadnezzar is represented by the toes, in a divided state, and of a crumbling material that will not hold together. Prophecy shows us that the great day of God is right upon us. It hastes greatly.” — *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 1, page 360*

2. Who will see the Second Coming of Jesus?

➤ **Matthew 24:30** —

➤ **Revelation 1:7** —

NOTES : “The Saviour has warned His people against deception upon this point, and has clearly foretold the manner of His Second Coming. “There shall arise false christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. . . . Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, He is in the desert; go not forth; behold, He is in the secret chambers; believe it not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shines even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” [Matthew 24:24-27] [see also Matthew 24:30-31; Matthew 25:31; Revelation 1:7; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17] This coming there is no possibility of counterfeiting. It will be universally known, witnessed by the whole world.” — *The Great Controversy, page 625*

3. Heaven’s Hotline —

➤

Lesson Scripture

Sunday, June 22nd, 2025

[Daniel 2:44]

- ☞ ⁴⁴ And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, *but* it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

[Matthew 24:24-27]

- ☞ ²⁴ For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it were* possible, they shall deceive the very elect.
²⁵ Behold, I have told you before.
²⁶ Wherefore if they shall say to you, Behold, He is in the desert; go not forth: behold, *He is* in the secret chambers; believe *it* not.
²⁷ For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shines even to the west; so shall also the coming of The Son of man be.

[Matthew 24:30-31]

- ☞ ³⁰ And then shall appear the sign of The Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see The Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.
³¹ And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

[Matthew 25:31]

- ☞ ³⁰ When The Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory:

[1 Thessalonians 4:16-17]

- ☞ ¹⁶ For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
¹⁷ Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet The Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with The Lord.

[Revelation 1:7]

- ☞ ⁷ Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they *also* which pierced Him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Sunday, June 22nd, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 180

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 22nd

Gracious Words

Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

Colossians 4:6

Courtesy is one of the graces of the Spirit. It is an attribute of Heaven. The angels never fly into a passion, never are envious or selfish. No harsh or unkind words escape their lips. If we are to be the companions of angels, we too must be refined and courteous.

The truth of God is designed to elevate the receiver, to refine his taste and sanctify his judgment. No man can be a Christian without having the spirit of Christ; and if he has the spirit of Christ, it will be manifested in a refined, courteous disposition. His character will be holy, his manners comely, his words without guile. He will cherish the love that is not easily provoked, that suffers long and is kind, that hopes all things and endures all things....

Those who profess to be followers of Christ and are at the same time rough, unkind, and uncourteous in words and deportment have not learned of Jesus.... The conduct of some professing Christians is so lacking in kindness and courtesy that their good is evil spoken of. Their sincerity may not be doubted, their uprightness may not be questioned; but sincerity and uprightness will not atone for a lack of kindness and courtesy. The Christian is to be sympathetic as well as true, pitiful and courteous as well as upright and honest....

True courtesy blended with truth and justice makes the life not only useful but beautiful and fragrant. Kind words, pleasant looks, a cheerful countenance, throw a charm about the Christian that makes his influence almost irresistible. In forgetfulness of self, in the light and peace and happiness that he is constantly bestowing on others, he finds true joy.

Let us be self-forgetful, ever on the watch to cheer others, to lighten their burdens by acts of tender kindness and deeds of unselfish love. Leave unspoken that unkind word; let that selfish disregard of the happiness of others give place to loving sympathy. These thoughtful courtesies, beginning in the home and extending far beyond the home circle, go far to make up the sum of life's happiness, and the neglect of them constitutes no small share of life's misery.

Daily Scripture

Sunday, June 22nd, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 116

I Love the Lord

- Psa 116:1 I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice *and* my supplications.
- Psa 116:2 Because he has inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon *him* as long as I live.
- Psa 116:3 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.
- Psa 116:4 Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.
- Psa 116:5 Gracious *is* the LORD, and righteous; yea, our God *is* merciful.
- Psa 116:6 The LORD preserves the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me.
- Psa 116:7 Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the LORD has dealt bountifully with thee.
- Psa 116:8 For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, *and* my feet from falling.
- Psa 116:9 I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.
- Psa 116:10 I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted:
- Psa 116:11 I said in my haste, All men *are* liars.
- Psa 116:12 What shall I render unto the LORD *for* all his benefits toward me?
- Psa 116:13 I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.
- Psa 116:14 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people.
- Psa 116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD *is* the death of his saints.
- Psa 116:16 O LORD, truly I *am* thy servant; I *am* thy servant, *and* the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds.
- Psa 116:17 I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD.
- Psa 116:18 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people,
- Psa 116:19 In the courts of the LORD'S house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD.

Monday – June 23rd

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Isaiah 25:8-9; Isaiah 26:19; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Revelation 6:14–17; Revelation 14:14–16; Revelation 19:11–15;

1. How is the Second Coming of Christ described?

➤ **Revelation 6:14–17** —

➤ **Revelation 14:14–16** —

➤ **Revelation 19:11–15** —

NOTES : “Soon our eyes were drawn to the east, for a small black cloud had appeared, about half as large as a man's hand, which we all knew was the sign of the Son of man. We all in solemn silence gazed on the cloud as it drew nearer and became lighter, glorious, and still more glorious, till it was a great white cloud. The bottom appeared like fire; a rainbow was over the cloud, while around it were ten thousand angels, singing a most lovely song; and upon it sat the Son of man. His hair was white and curly and lay on His shoulders; and upon His head were many crowns. His feet had the appearance of fire; in His right hand was a sharp sickle; in His left, a silver trumpet. His eyes were as a flame of fire, which searched His children through and through. Then all faces gathered paleness, and those that God had rejected gathered blackness. Then we all cried out, “Who shall be able to stand?” [Revelation 6:17] Is my robe spotless? Then the angels ceased to sing, and there was some time of awful silence, when Jesus spoke: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts shall be able to stand; “My grace is sufficient for you.” [2 Corinthians 12:9] At this our faces lighted up, and joy filled every heart. And the angels struck a note higher and sang again, while the cloud drew still nearer the earth.” —*Early Writings, page 15 - 16. {Read The Great Controversy, pages 640 – 644}*

2. What Old Testament promise will find fulfilment when Jesus comes again?

➤ **Isaiah 26:19** —

NOTES : ““He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the Lord hath spoken it.” [Isaiah 25:8] And as Isaiah beholds the Lord of glory descending from heaven, with all the holy angels, to gather the remnant church from among the nations of earth, he hears the waiting ones unite in the exultant cry, “Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us: this is the Lord; we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.” [Isaiah 25:9] The voice of the Son of God is heard calling forth the sleeping saints; and as the prophet beholds them coming from the prison house of death, he exclaims: “Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.” [Isaiah 26:19]” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, July 1st, 1915*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Monday, June 23rd, 2025

[Isaiah 25:8-9]

- ☞ ⁸ He will swallow up death in victory; and The Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of His people shall He take away from off all the earth: for The LORD has spoken *it*.
⁹ And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this *is* our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us: this *is* The LORD; we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.

[Isaiah 26:1]

- ☞ ¹⁹ In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; salvation will *God* appoint *for* walls and bulwarks.

[2 Corinthians 12:9]

- ☞ ⁹ And He said to me, “**My grace is sufficient for you: for My strength is made perfect in weakness.**” Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

[Revelation 6:14-17]

- ☞ ¹⁴ And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.
¹⁵ And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;
¹⁶ And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sits on the throne, and from the wrath of The Lamb:
¹⁷ For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

[Revelation 14:14-16]

- ☞ ¹⁴ And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud *one* sat like unto The Son of man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.
¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in Your sickle, and reap: for the time is come for You to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.
¹⁶ And He that sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.

[Revelation 19:11-15]

- ☞ ¹¹ And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He does judge and make war.
¹² His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but He Himself.
¹³ And HE *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God.
¹⁴ And the armies *which were* in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.
¹⁵ And out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations: and He shall rule them with a rod of iron: and He treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Monday, June 23rd, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 181

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 23rd

Kind and Courteous Words

The Lord God has given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakens morning by morning, he wakens mine ear to hear as the learned.

Isaiah 50:4

What Christ was in His life on this earth, that every Christian is to be. He is our example, not only in His spotless purity, but in His patience, gentleness, and winsomeness of disposition. He was firm as a rock where truth and duty were concerned, but He was invariably kind and courteous. His life was a perfect illustration of true courtesy.... His presence brought a purer atmosphere into the home, and His life was as leaven working amid the elements of society. Harmless and undefiled, He walked among the thoughtless, the rude, the uncourteous; amid the unjust publicans, the unrighteous Samaritans, the heathen soldiers, the rough peasants, and the mixed multitude.

He spoke a word of sympathy here and a word there as He saw men weary and compelled to bear heavy burdens. He shared their burdens and repeated to them the lessons He had learned from nature, of the love, the kindness, the goodness of God. He sought to inspire with hope the most rough and unpromising, setting before them the assurance that they might become blameless and harmless, attaining such a character as would make them manifest as children of God.... Jesus sat an honoured guest at the table of the publicans, by His sympathy and social kindness showing that He recognized the dignity of humanity; and men longed to become worthy of His confidence. Upon their thirsty souls His words fell with blessed, life-giving power. New impulses were awakened, and the possibility of a new life opened to these outcasts of society.

The religion of Jesus softens whatever is hard and rough in the temper and smooths off whatever is rugged and sharp in the manners. It is this religion that makes the words gentle and the demeanour winning. Let us learn from Christ how to combine a high sense of purity and integrity with sunniness of disposition. A kind, courteous Christian is the most powerful argument that can be produced in favour of the gospel.

Daily Scripture

Monday, June 23rd, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 117

The Lord's Faithfulness Endures Forever

Psa 117:1 O praise the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.

Psa 117:2 For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the LORD *endures* for ever. Praise ye the LORD.

Tuesday – June 24th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Isaiah 35:3–7; 1 Thessalonians 4:17;

1. What further blessed promise will be fulfilled then?

➤ **Isaiah 35:5–6**

NOTES : “We are given a special message to bear in times of depression and discouragement: “Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. 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. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water.” [Isaiah 35:3-7] I ask you to read the whole of this thirty-fifth chapter of Isaiah... When you are disappointed because of the spiritual lack you see in the churches and in individuals, read these promising words of inspiration. They are given for the encouragement of our churches.” —*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, May 6th, 1909*

2. What promise is given to those who live to see Christ's Second Coming?

➤ **1 Thessalonians 4:17**

NOTES : “The Thessalonians had eagerly grasped the idea that Christ was coming to change the faithful who were alive, and to take them to Himself. They had carefully guarded the lives of their friends, lest they should die and lose the blessing which they looked forward to receiving at the coming of their Lord. But one after another their loved ones had been taken from them, and with anguish the Thessalonians had looked for the last time upon the faces of their dead, hardly daring to hope to meet them in a future life. As Paul's epistle was opened and read, great joy and consolation was brought to the church by the words revealing the true state of the dead. Paul showed that those living when Christ should come would not go to meet their Lord in advance of those who had fallen asleep in Jesus. The voice of the Archangel and the trump of God would reach the sleeping ones, and the dead in Christ should rise first, before the touch of immortality should be given to the living. “Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.” [1 Thessalonians 4:17]”—*The Acts of the Apostles, page 258*

3. Heaven's Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Tuesday, June 24th, 2025

[Isaiah 35:3-7]

- ↳ ³ Strengthen you the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.
- ↳ 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.
- ↳ ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.
- ↳ ⁶ Then shall the lame *man* leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.
- ↳ ⁷ And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, *shall be* grass with reeds and rushes.

[1 Thessalonians 4:17]

- ↳ ¹⁷ Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet The Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with The Lord.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Tuesday, June 24th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 182

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 24th

No Sharp or Hasty Words

Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.

1 Peter 2:1, 2

We should study this instruction. It is our privilege to grow “*unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.*” (Ephesians 4:13). We are not to be thoughtless or careless in speech, hurting one another by unkind words....

Every human agency connected with the Lord’s work needs to appreciate the work in which he is acting a part. The work in God’s institutions is to be carried on without friction, without hasty speech, without dictatorial words. The workers are to be pure, clean, and holy in thought, in word, in act. They are to be Christ’s witnesses, testifying that they are born again.

There is to be no sharp speaking, no fretful scolding, for angels of God are walking up and down in every room. Christ loves to commend every faithful worker, and He will do it. Every good act is registered in the book. Little mistakes may be made, but words of censure arouse feelings of retaliation, and God is dishonoured.... Any word spoken thoughtlessly or unadvisedly should be retracted on the spot.... We are to remember that as Christians professing to work in unity we must not act like sinners, whose sinful words and works, unless repented of, will condemn them....

“*Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die.*” (Revelation 3:2). This is our work. There are many ready to die spiritually, and the Lord calls upon us to strengthen them. God’s people are to be firm to duty. They are to be bound together by the bonds of Christian fellowship and are to be strengthened in the faith by speaking often to one another about the precious truths entrusted to them. Never are they to quarrel and condemn. They are to unite upon the importance of obedience to God’s law.

In this life there is nothing of greater importance than preparation of character that we may at last enter with joy into the saints’ abode on high. Why do we not improve our privilege of being saints here below?

Daily Scripture

Tuesday, June 24th, 2025

Psalm

Chapter 118

His Steadfast Love Endures Forever

- Psa 118:1 O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is* good: because his mercy *endures* for ever.
- Psa 118:2 Let Israel now say, that his mercy *endures* for ever.
- Psa 118:3 Let the house of Aaron now say, that his mercy *endures* for ever.
- Psa 118:4 Let them now that fear the LORD say, that his mercy *endures* for ever.
- Psa 118:5 I called upon the LORD in distress: the LORD answered me, *and set me* in a large place.
- Psa 118:6 The LORD *is* on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?
- Psa 118:7 The LORD taketh my part with them that help me: therefore shall I see *my desire* upon them that hate me.
- Psa 118:8 *It is* better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.
- Psa 118:9 *It is* better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.
- Psa 118:10 All nations compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD will I destroy them.
- Psa 118:11 They compassed me about; yea, they compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.
- Psa 118:12 They compassed me about like bees; they are quenched as the fire of thorns: for in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.
- Psa 118:13 Thou hast thrust sore at me that I might fall: but the LORD helped me.
- Psa 118:14 The LORD *is* my strength and song, and is become my salvation.
- Psa 118:15 The voice of rejoicing and salvation *is* in the tabernacles of the righteous: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly.
- Psa 118:16 The right hand of the LORD is exalted: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly.
- Psa 118:17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.
- Psa 118:18 The LORD has chastened me sore: but he has not given me over unto death.
- Psa 118:19 Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, *and* I will praise the LORD:
- Psa 118:20 This gate of the LORD, into which the righteous shall enter.
- Psa 118:21 I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation.
- Psa 118:22 The stone *which* the builders refused is become the head *stone* of the corner.
- Psa 118:23 This is the LORD'S doing; it *is* marvellous in our eyes.
- Psa 118:24 This *is* the day *which* the LORD has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- Psa 118:25 Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity.
- Psa 118:26 Blessed *be* he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD.
- Psa 118:27 God *is* the LORD, which has shewed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, *even* unto the horns of the altar.
- Psa 118:28 Thou *art* my God, and I will praise thee: *thou art* my God, I will exalt thee.
- Psa 118:29 O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is* good: for his mercy *endures* for ever.

Wednesday – June 25th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : John 14:1–3; 1 Corinthians 13:12;

1. What assurance are we given that we shall recognise our loved ones and that they will recognise us?

➤ **1 Corinthians 13:12** —

NOTES : “The resurrection of Jesus was a type of the final resurrection of all who sleep in Him. The countenance of the risen Saviour, His manner, His speech, were all familiar to His disciples. As Jesus arose from the dead, so those who sleep in Him are to rise again. We shall know our friends, even as the disciples knew Jesus. They may have been deformed, diseased, or disfigured, in this mortal life, and they rise in perfect health and symmetry; yet in the glorified body their identity will be perfectly preserved. Then shall we know even as also we are known. In the face radiant with the light shining from the face of Jesus, we shall recognise the lineaments of those we love.” —*The Desire of Ages, page 804*

2. When Jesus promised to come again, to which place did He promise to take His people?

➤ **John 14:1–3** —

NOTES : “Jesus has gone to prepare mansions for us... It is these mansions that I am looking to; it is not the earthly mansions here, for ere long they are to be shaken down by the mighty earthquake; but those heavenly mansions that Christ has gone to prepare for the faithful. We have no home here; we are only pilgrims and strangers, passing to a better country, even a heavenly.” —*Life Sketches, page 293*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Wednesday, June 25th, 2025

[John 14:1-3]

- ↪ ¹ Let not your heart be troubled: you believe in God, believe also in Me.
- ² In My Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not *so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
- ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

[1 Corinthians 13:12]

- ↪ ¹² For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Wednesday, June 25th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 183

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 25th

Growing Up in Christ

Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God.

Hebrews 6:1

At the entrance gate of the path that leads to everlasting life God places faith, and He lines the whole way with the light and peace and joy of willing obedience. The traveller in this way keeps ever before him the mark of his high calling in Christ. The prize is ever in sight. To him God’s commands are righteousness and joy and peace in the Holy Spirit. The things that first appeared to be crosses are found by experience to be crowns.

“*Learn of me,*” is the Saviour’s command. Yes, learn of Him how to live the Christ life—a life pure and holy, free from any taint of sin....

Progression, not stagnation, is the law of heaven. Progression is the law of every faculty of mind and body. The things of nature obey this law. In the field there is seen first the blade, then the ear, then the full corn in the ear. In the spiritual life, as in the physical life, there is to be growth. Step by step we are to advance, ever receiving and imparting, ever gaining a more complete knowledge of Christ, daily approaching more closely the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

The Christian is first a babe in Christ. Then he becomes a child. Constantly he is to make advancement proportionate to the opportunities and privileges granted him. Ever he is to remember that he is not his own, that he has been bought with a price, and that he must make the best possible use of the talents entrusted to him. Even in the infancy of his spiritual understanding, the Christian is to do his best, making steady advancement toward the higher, holier life. He is to realize that he is a labourer together with God....

He is never to become self-sufficient, but is to count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus his Lord. He is to walk and work in the Saviour’s companionship. As he does this, his faith will increase. Constantly beholding Christ, he will be changed into the same image from character to character.

Daily Scripture

Wednesday, June 25th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 119

Your Word Is a Lamp to My Feet

- Psa 119:1 **ALEPH.** Blessed *are* the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.
Psa 119:2 Blessed *are* they that keep his testimonies, *and that* seek him with the whole heart.
Psa 119:3 They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.
Psa 119:4 Thou hast commanded *us* to keep thy precepts diligently.
Psa 119:5 O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!
Psa 119:6 Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.
Psa 119:7 I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.
Psa 119:8 I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly.
- Psa 119:9 **BETH.** Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed *thereto* according to thy word.
Psa 119:10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.
Psa 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.
Psa 119:12 Blessed *art* thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.
Psa 119:13 With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.
Psa 119:14 I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as *much as* in all riches.
Psa 119:15 I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.
Psa 119:16 I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.
- Psa 119:17 **GIMEL.** Deal bountifully with thy servant, *that* I may live, and keep thy word.
Psa 119:18 Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.
Psa 119:19 I *am* a stranger in the earth: hide not thy commandments from me.
Psa 119:20 My soul breaks for the longing *that it has* unto thy judgments at all times.
Psa 119:21 Thou hast rebuked the proud *that are* cursed, which do err from thy commandments.
Psa 119:22 Remove from me reproach and contempt; for I have kept thy testimonies.
Psa 119:23 Princes also did sit *and* speak against me: *but* thy servant did meditate in thy statutes.
Psa 119:24 Thy testimonies also *are* my delight *and* my counsellors.
- Psa 119:25 **DALETH.** My soul cleaves unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word.
Psa 119:26 I have declared my ways, and thou heard me: teach me thy statutes.
Psa 119:27 Make me to understand the way of thy precepts: so shall I talk of thy wondrous works.
Psa 119:28 My soul melts for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word.
Psa 119:29 Remove from me the way of lying: and grant me thy law graciously.
Psa 119:30 I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid *before me*.
Psa 119:31 I have stuck unto thy testimonies: O LORD, put me not to shame.
Psa 119:32 I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart.
- Psa 119:33 **HE.** Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it *unto* the end.
Psa 119:34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with *my* whole heart.
Psa 119:35 Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight.

- Psa 119:36 Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness.
- Psa 119:37 Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; *and* quicken thou me in thy way.
- Psa 119:38 Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who *is devoted* to thy fear.
- Psa 119:39 Turn away my reproach which I fear: for thy judgments *are* good.
- Psa 119:40 Behold, I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me in thy righteousness.
- Psa 119:41 **VAU.** Let thy mercies come also unto me, O LORD, *even* thy salvation, according to thy word.
- Psa 119:42 So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproaches me: for I trust in thy word.
- Psa 119:43 And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments.
- Psa 119:44 So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever.
- Psa 119:45 And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts.
- Psa 119:46 I will speak of thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed.
- Psa 119:47 And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved.
- Psa 119:48 My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes.
- Psa 119:49 **ZAIN.** Remember the word unto thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to hope.
- Psa 119:50 This *is* my comfort in my affliction: for thy word has quickened me.
- Psa 119:51 The proud have had me greatly in derision: *yet* have I not declined from thy law.
- Psa 119:52 I remembered thy judgments of old, O LORD; and have comforted myself.
- Psa 119:53 Horror has taken hold upon me because of the wicked that forsake thy law.
- Psa 119:54 Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.
- Psa 119:55 I have remembered thy name, O LORD, in the night, and have kept thy law.
- Psa 119:56 This I had, because I kept thy precepts.
- Psa 119:57 **CHETH.** *Thou art* my portion, O LORD: I have said that I would keep thy words.
- Psa 119:58 I entreated thy favour with *my* whole heart: be merciful unto me according to thy word.
- Psa 119:59 I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies.
- Psa 119:60 I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments.
- Psa 119:61 The bands of the wicked have robbed me: *but* I have not forgotten thy law.
- Psa 119:62 At midnight I will rise to give thanks unto thee because of thy righteous judgments.
- Psa 119:63 I *am* a companion of all *them* that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.
- Psa 119:64 The earth, O LORD, is full of thy mercy: teach me thy statutes.
- Psa 119:65 **TETH.** Thou hast dealt well with thy servant, O LORD, according unto thy word.
- Psa 119:66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge: for I have believed thy commandments.
- Psa 119:67 Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word.
- Psa 119:68 Thou *art* good, and do good; teach me thy statutes.
- Psa 119:69 The proud have forged a lie against me: *but* I will keep thy precepts with *my* whole heart.
- Psa 119:70 Their heart is as fat as grease; *but* I delight in thy law.
- Psa 119:71 *It is* good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.
- Psa 119:72 The law of thy mouth *is* better unto me than thousands of gold and silver.
- Psa 119:73 **JOD.** Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments.
- Psa 119:74 They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because I have hoped in thy word.
- Psa 119:75 I know, O LORD, that thy judgments *are* right, and *that* thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me.
- Psa 119:76 Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy servant.

- Psa 119:77 Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law *is* my delight.
- Psa 119:78 Let the proud be ashamed; for they dealt perversely with me without a cause: *but* I will meditate in thy precepts.
- Psa 119:79 Let those that fear thee turn unto me, and those that have known thy testimonies.
- Psa 119:80 Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed.
- Psa 119:81 **CAPH.** My soul faints for thy salvation: *but* I hope in thy word.
- Psa 119:82 Mine eyes fail for thy word, saying, When wilt thou comfort me?
- Psa 119:83 For I am become like a bottle in the smoke; *yet* do I not forget thy statutes.
- Psa 119:84 How many *are* the days of thy servant? when wilt thou execute judgment on them that persecute me?
- Psa 119:85 The proud have dug pits for me, which *are* not after thy law.
- Psa 119:86 All thy commandments *are* faithful: they persecute me wrongfully; help thou me.
- Psa 119:87 They had almost consumed me upon earth; but I forsook not thy precepts.
- Psa 119:88 Quicken me after thy lovingkindness; so shall I keep the testimony of thy mouth.
- Psa 119:89 **LAMED.** For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.
- Psa 119:90 Thy faithfulness *is* unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abides.
- Psa 119:91 They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all *are* thy servants.
- Psa 119:92 Unless thy law *had been* my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction.
- Psa 119:93 I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me.
- Psa 119:94 I *am* thine, save me; for I have sought thy precepts.
- Psa 119:95 The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: *but* I will consider thy testimonies.
- Psa 119:96 I have seen an end of all perfection: *but* thy commandment *is* exceeding broad.
- Psa 119:97 **MEM.** O how love I thy law! it *is* my meditation all the day.
- Psa 119:98 Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they *are* ever with me.
- Psa 119:99 I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies *are* my meditation.
- Psa 119:100 I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.
- Psa 119:101 I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.
- Psa 119:102 I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me.
- Psa 119:103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! *yea, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!
- Psa 119:104 Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.
- Psa 119:105 **NUN.** Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.
- Psa 119:106 I have sworn, and I will perform *it*, that I will keep thy righteous judgments.
- Psa 119:107 I am afflicted very much: quicken me, O LORD, according unto thy word.
- Psa 119:108 Accept, I beseech thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and teach me thy judgments.
- Psa 119:109 My soul *is* continually in my hand: yet do I not forget thy law.
- Psa 119:110 The wicked have laid a snare for me: yet I erred not from thy precepts.
- Psa 119:111 Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they *are* the rejoicing of my heart.
- Psa 119:112 I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes always, *even unto* the end.
- Psa 119:113 **SAMECH.** I hate *vain* thoughts: but thy law do I love.
- Psa 119:114 Thou *art* my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word.
- Psa 119:115 Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God.
- Psa 119:116 Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope.

Psa 119:117 Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe: and I will have respect unto thy statutes continually.

Psa 119:118 Thou hast trodden down all them that err from thy statutes: for their deceit *is* falsehood.

Psa 119:119 Thou puts away all the wicked of the earth *like* dross: therefore I love thy testimonies.

Psa 119:120 My flesh trembles for fear of thee; and I am afraid of thy judgments.

Psa 119:121 **AIN.** I have done judgment and justice: leave me not to mine oppressors.

Psa 119:122 Be surety for thy servant for good: let not the proud oppress me.

Psa 119:123 Mine eyes fail for thy salvation, and for the word of thy righteousness.

Psa 119:124 Deal with thy servant according unto thy mercy, and teach me thy statutes.

Psa 119:125 I *am* thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know thy testimonies.

Psa 119:126 *It is* time for *thee*, LORD, to work: *for* they have made void thy law.

Psa 119:127 Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold.

Psa 119:128 Therefore I esteem all *thy* precepts *concerning* all *things to be* right; *and* I hate every false way.

Psa 119:129 **PE.** Thy testimonies *are* wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them.

Psa 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

Psa 119:131 I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments.

Psa 119:132 Look thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou use to do unto those that love thy name.

Psa 119:133 Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

Psa 119:134 Deliver me from the oppression of man: so will I keep thy precepts.

Psa 119:135 Make thy face to shine upon thy servant; and teach me thy statutes.

Psa 119:136 Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law.

Psa 119:137 **TZADDI.** Righteous *art* thou, O LORD, and upright *are* thy judgments.

Psa 119:138 Thy testimonies *that* thou hast commanded *are* righteous and very faithful.

Psa 119:139 My zeal has consumed me, because mine enemies have forgotten thy words.

Psa 119:140 Thy word *is* very pure: therefore thy servant loves it.

Psa 119:141 I *am* small and despised: *yet* do not I forget thy precepts.

Psa 119:142 Thy righteousness *is* an everlasting righteousness, and thy law *is* the truth.

Psa 119:143 Trouble and anguish have taken hold on me: *yet* thy commandments *are* my delights.

Psa 119:144 The righteousness of thy testimonies *is* everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.

Psa 119:145 **KOPH.** I cried with *my* whole heart; hear me, O LORD: I will keep thy statutes.

Psa 119:146 I cried unto thee; save me, and I shall keep thy testimonies.

Psa 119:147 I prevented the dawning of the morning, and cried: I hoped in thy word.

Psa 119:148 Mine eyes prevent the *night* watches, that I might meditate in thy word.

Psa 119:149 Hear my voice according unto thy lovingkindness: O LORD, quicken me according to thy judgment.

Psa 119:150 They draw nigh that follow after mischief: they are far from thy law.

Psa 119:151 Thou *art* near, O LORD; and all thy commandments *are* truth.

Psa 119:152 Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever.

Psa 119:153 **RESH.** Consider mine affliction, and deliver me: for I do not forget thy law.

Psa 119:154 Plead my cause, and deliver me: quicken me according to thy word.

Psa 119:155 Salvation *is* far from the wicked: for they seek not thy statutes.

Psa 119:156 Great *are* thy tender mercies, O LORD: quicken me according to thy judgments.

Psa 119:157 Many *are* my persecutors and mine enemies; *yet* do I not decline from thy testimonies.

Psa 119:158 I beheld the transgressors, and was grieved; because they kept not thy word.

Psa 119:159 Consider how I love thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness.

Psa 119:160 Thy word *is* true *from* the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments *endures* for ever.

Psa 119:161 **SCHIN**. Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart stands in awe of thy word.

Psa 119:162 I rejoice at thy word, as one that finds great spoil.

Psa 119:163 I hate and abhor lying: *but* thy law do I love.

Psa 119:164 Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments.

Psa 119:165 Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

Psa 119:166 LORD, I have hoped for thy salvation, and done thy commandments.

Psa 119:167 My soul has kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly.

Psa 119:168 I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies: for all my ways *are* before thee.

Psa 119:169 **TAU**. Let my cry come near before thee, O LORD: give me understanding according to thy word.

Psa 119:170 Let my supplication come before thee: deliver me according to thy word.

Psa 119:171 My lips shall utter praise, when thou hast taught me thy statutes.

Psa 119:172 My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments *are* righteousness.

Psa 119:173 Let thine hand help me; for I have chosen thy precepts.

Psa 119:174 I have longed for thy salvation, O LORD; and thy law *is* my delight.

Psa 119:175 Let my soul live, and it shall praise thee; and let thy judgments help me.

Psa 119:176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments.

Thursday – June 26th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Isaiah 65:17; Ephesians 3:15; Revelation 21:10–22:2; Revelation 22:5;

1. How is that place described?

➤ **Revelation 21:10–22:2**

NOTES : “In the City of God “there shall be no night.” [Revelation 22:5] None will need or desire repose. There will be no weariness in doing the will of God and offering praise to His name. We shall ever feel the freshness of the morning and shall ever be far from its close... The light of the sun will be superseded by a radiance which is not painfully dazzling, yet which immeasurably surpasses the brightness of our noontide. The glory of God and the Lamb floods the Holy City with unfading light. The redeemed walk in the sunless glory of perpetual day... We behold the image of God reflected, as in a mirror, in the works of nature and in His dealings with men; but then we shall see Him face to face, without a dimming veil between. We shall stand in His presence and behold the glory of His countenance. There the redeemed shall know, even as also they are known. The loves and sympathies which God Himself has planted in the soul shall there find truest and sweetest exercise. The pure communion with holy beings, the harmonious social life with the blessed angels and with the faithful ones of all ages who have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb, the sacred ties that bind together “the whole family in heaven and earth” [Ephesians 3:15], these help to constitute the happiness of the redeemed...” —*The Great Controversy, pgs. 676 – 678*

2. What precious promise is given for those who dwell in that new earth?

➤ **Isaiah 65:17 —**

NOTES : “The marginal reading for 'come into mind' is 'come upon the heart'. 'Fellow pilgrim, we are still amid the shadows and turmoil of earthly activities; but soon our Saviour is to appear to bring deliverance and rest. Let us by faith behold the blessed hereafter as pictured by the hand of God. He who died for the sins of the world is opening wide the gates of Paradise to all who believe on Him. Soon the battle will have been fought, the victory won. Soon we shall see Him in whom our hopes of eternal life are centred. And in His presence the trials and sufferings of this life will seem as nothingness.” —*Prophets & Kings, page 731*

3. Heaven’s Hotline

➤

Lesson Scripture

Thursday, June 26th, 2025

[Isaiah 65:17]

☞ ¹⁷ For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

[Ephesians 3:15]

☞ ¹⁵ Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

[Revelation 21:10-27 to Revelation 22:2]

☞ ^{21:10} And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,
^{21:11} Having the glory of God: and her light *was* like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;
^{21:12} And had a wall great and high, *and* had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are *the names* of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:
^{21:13} On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.
^{21:14} And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of The Lamb.
^{21:15} And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof.
^{21:16} And the city lies foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.
^{21:17} And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred *and* forty *and* four cubits, *according to* the measure of a man, that is, of the angel.
^{21:18} And the building of the wall of it *was of* jasper: and the city *was* pure gold, like unto clear glass.
^{21:19} And the foundations of the wall of the city *were* garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation *was* jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald;
^{21:20} The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst.
^{21:21} And the twelve gates *were* twelve pearls; every several gate *was* of one pearl: and the street of the city *was* pure gold, as it *were* transparent glass.
^{21:22} And I saw no temple therein: for The Lord God Almighty and The Lamb are the temple of it.
^{21:23} And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and The Lamb *is* the light thereof.
^{21:24} And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.
^{21:25} And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.
^{21:26} And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.
^{21:27} And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defiles, neither *whatsoever* works abomination, or *makes* a lie: but they which are written in The Lamb's book of life.
^{22:1} And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of The Lamb.
^{22:2} In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, *was there* the tree of life, which bare twelve *manner of* fruits, *and* yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations.

[Revelation 22:5]

☞ ⁵ And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for The Lord God gives them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Thursday, June 26th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 184

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 26th

Don't Be a Religious Dwarf

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

2 Peter 3:18

A genuine Christian experience unfolds day by day, bringing to its possessor new strength and earnestness and leading to constant growth in spiritual life. But the Christian world abounds with professors of religion who are merely religious dwarfs. Many seem to have graduated as soon as they learned the rudiments of the Christian faith. They do not grow in grace or in the knowledge of the truth. They do nothing, either with their means or their influence, to build up the cause of God. They are drones in the hive. This class will not long stand where they are. They will be converted and advance, or they will retrograde....

To meet the claims of God, you will have to make personal effort; and in this work you will need the resources of an ever-growing Christian experience. Your faith must be strong, your consecration complete, your love pure and sincere, your zeal ardent, tireless, your courage unshaken, your patience unwearied, your hopes bright. Upon every one, old or young, rests a responsibility in this matter.

The perils of the last days will test the genuineness of our faith.... The mighty surges of temptation will beat upon all, and unless they are riveted to the eternal Rock they will be borne away. Do not think that you can safely drift with the current. If you do, you will surely become the helpless prey of Satan's devices. By diligent searching of the Scriptures and earnest prayer for divine help prepare the soul to resist temptation. The Lord will hear the sincere prayer of the contrite soul and will lift up a standard for you against the enemy. But you will be tried; your faith, your love, your patience, your constancy will be tested....

Our duty, our safety, our happiness and usefulness, and our salvation call upon us each to use the greatest diligence to secure the grace of Christ, to be so closely connected with God that we may discern spiritual things, and not be ignorant of Satan's devices....

“This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith.”

Daily Scripture

Thursday, June 26th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 120

Deliver Me, O Lord

- Psa 120:1 **A Song of degrees.** In my distress I cried unto the LORD, and he heard me.
Psa 120:2 Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips, *and* from a deceitful tongue.
Psa 120:3 What shall be given unto thee? or what shall be done unto thee, thou false tongue?
Psa 120:4 Sharp arrows of the mighty, with coals of juniper.
Psa 120:5 Woe is me, that I sojourn in Mesech, *that* I dwell in the tents of Kedar!
Psa 120:6 My soul has long dwelt with him that hates peace.
Psa 120:7 I *am for* peace: but when I speak, they *are* for war.

Preparation Day – June 27th

📖 LESSON SCRIPTURE : Isaiah 63:1; Habakkuk 3:4; Zechariah 13:6;

1. What sole memory of sin and suffering will remain throughout the years of eternity?

➤ **Zechariah 13:6**

NOTES : “One reminder alone remains: Our Redeemer will ever bear the marks of His crucifixion. Upon His wounded head, upon His side, His hands and feet, are the only traces of the cruel work that sin has wrought. Says the prophet, beholding Christ in His glory: “He had bright beams coming out of His side: and there was the hiding of His power.” [Habakkuk 3:4, margin] That pierced side whence flowed the crimson stream that reconciled man to God, there is the Saviour's glory, there “the hiding of His power.” [Habakkuk 3:4] “Mighty to save,” [Isaiah 63:1] through the sacrifice of redemption, He was therefore strong to execute justice upon them that despised God's mercy. And the tokens of His humiliation are His highest honour; through the eternal ages the wounds of Calvary will show forth His praise and declare His power.”—*Darkness Before Dawn, 1977, p. 60*

2. Heaven's Hotline —

➤

Lesson Scripture

Preparation Day, June 27th, 2025

[Isaiah 63:1]

1 Who *is* this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this *that is* glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.

[Habakkuk 3:4]

4 And *His* brightness was as the light; He had horns *coming* out of his Hand: and there *was* the hiding of His power.

[Zechariah 13:6]

6 And *one* shall say to Him, What *are* these wounds in Your hands? Then He shall answer, *Those with which I was wounded in the house of My friends.*

EXTRA SCRIPTURE

[1]

In Heavenly Places

Preparation Day, June 27th, 2025

In Heavenly Places,

Chapter 5, p. 185

“Heart, Mind and Spirit”

June 27th

“Unto a Perfect Man,”

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:13

As we advance step by step in the path of obedience, we shall know how true is the promise that they who follow on to know the Lord shall know that His going forth is prepared as the morning. Clearer light is ready to shine upon all who follow Him who is the Light of the world. Everyone who takes upon him the yoke of Christ, with full determination to obey the word of God, will have a healthy, symmetrical experience. He will enjoy the blessings that come to him as a result of the hiding of his life with Christ in God.

In business life he will work out the principles laid down in Christ’s sermon on the mount. He will renounce the bag of deceitful weights and will despise the fraud of tricks in trade.... He has an abiding sense that he is a part of the heavenly firm and that it is his duty to trade upon the talents given him by God. He realizes that he is adopted into the family of God and that he must act toward all as Christ acted when He was upon this earth.

What a diligent, constant work is the work of a true Christian. Ever he wears the yoke of Christ.... He has genuine modesty, and does not talk of his qualifications and accomplishments. Self-admiration is not a part of his experience. There is much to learn in regard to what comprises true Christian character. It certainly is not self-inflation.... The glory and majesty of God should ever fill our souls with a holy awe, humbling us in the dust before Him. His condescension, His wide, deep compassion, His tenderness and love, are given us to strengthen our confidence and remove that fear which tends unto bondage. The Lord wants us to give Him all there is of us in a steady, evenly balanced Christian life....

Let us not endure the thought of being religious dwarfs.... We must ever be growing unto the full stature of men and women in Christ Jesus, till we are complete in Him. Christ will come and abide with every soul who will say from the heart, Come in. He loves everyone who has a desire to follow Him.

Daily Scripture

Preparation Day, June 27th, 2025

Psalms

Chapter 121

My Help Comes from the Lord

- Psa 121:1 **A Song of degrees.** I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.
- Psa 121:2 My help *cometh* from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.
- Psa 121:3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keeps thee will not slumber.
- Psa 121:4 Behold, he that keeps Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.
- Psa 121:5 The LORD *is* thy keeper: the LORD *is* thy shade upon thy right hand.
- Psa 121:6 The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.
- Psa 121:7 The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.
- Psa 121:8 The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

Adult Mission Story

Preparation Day, June 27th, 2025



Last week: Armi, a missionary teaching children at a jungle mission school in Papua, Indonesia, made an eight-hour trek up a mountain to visit a single mother who hadn't walked after falling out of a tree seven years earlier. He and a missionary friend told the mother that her only hope was in Jesus, the Master Physician. Then Armi and his friend prayed for a cell-phone signal. They desperately needed medical advice on how to treat the mother's leg. But they were in the middle of a mountainous jungle and hadn't received a cellphone signal in months.

Then a miracle happened. Just a few days after visiting the mother, Armi's phone rang while he and his friend were visiting another far-off place in Papua, Indonesia. At first, Armi thought it was his phone alarm and ignored it. But the phone kept ringing, so he pulled it out of his pocket and saw that he had received an email. That meant that he had a cell-phone connection.

Armi immediately bowed his head and prayed, "Lord, thank You, thank You! Please help me to call the right person for information on how to treat this mother."

Armi quickly scrolled through his phone contacts, worried that the cell-phone signal might disappear. Then he found a friend who was a nurse, and he called her.

The call went through!

Armi described the situation, and the nurse offered advice on how to clean the wound on the mother's right knee. She also suggested that Armi take anti-infection antibiotics that he had in his mountain home and give the pills to the mother.

The phone call lasted only two minutes. Then the signal disappeared. But it was enough time to receive the precious advice.

For the next two months, Armi and his friend visited the mother in her grass hut every week. Every time, they cleaned the wound and gave her antibiotics against the infection that had caused her knee to swell. They urged her to pray regularly.

“Who should I pray to?” she asked the first time.

“Pray to the One whose name is Jesus,” Armi replied.

She was not familiar with Jesus, and Armi introduced her to Him through Bible stories. As he cleaned her wound, he spoke about how Jesus had healed the sick and gave sight to the blind. Neighbors came to watch, and they listened to the stories.

As the weeks passed, the swelling slowly went down and the wound healed. Armi and his friend gave thanks to God. Everything that was happening was beyond their medical skills.

Then the two missionaries had commitments in other parts of Papua and weren’t able to visit the mother for a month. But they sent healthy food and natural remedies to her with the assistance of the children whom they were teaching at the jungle mission school.

When the missionaries finally managed to hike the eight hours to her village again, they found her standing outside her grass hut. Armi started to cry. He couldn’t believe his eyes. The mother who hadn’t been able to walk for seven years was standing with the aid of a walking stick outside her hut. As he and his friend drew closer, she used the walking stick to take halting steps toward them.

Then Armi’s friend began to cry. “How can this be?” he said.

The three sat down inside the hut. The mother’s face shone with joy and health as she spoke. “I kept praying, and the pain went away,” she said, using hand gestures to help them understand her dialect. “I believe that it’s because of Jesus. Even though I don’t understand who He is, I’m grateful that you have brought Him into my life.”

“This is not the end,” Armi replied. “If you believe that Jesus has healed you, you must continue to believe and obey Him.”

Another month passed, and the mother was able to walk without the walking stick. She wasn’t completely healed, but she could resume her normal activities at home and in the field where she grew crops.

The neighbors were astounded. They began to pray to Jesus with her.

Shortly before Armi finished his time as a missionary in Papua, he met with the mother one last time. She confided that she no longer felt at peace with her traditional way of worship.

“May I join your worship?” she asked.

“You’re very welcome, Mom,” Armi replied. “But our church is so far away. How will you be able to walk eight hours?”

“Jesus is the One who healed me,” she said. “I have to worship Him. He has helped me to walk again, and I will walk to church to worship Him.”

The mother made the long walk, and she attended worship services every Sabbath after that. She also sent all four of her children to the jungle mission school.

To Armi’s surprise, not only did her children come to the school but so did all the other children from her village. The neighbors had witnessed the power of Jesus, and they wanted their children to know Him, too. “Things that are impossible for me are not impossible for God,” Armi said. “I pray that the mother will remain faithful.”

Part of today’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will go to Papua to help construct classrooms, an administrative building, a library, and an auditorium for Papua Adventist Theology College. The college moved to Nabire after its campus was destroyed in a flood in another part of Papua in 2019. Currently, students meet in borrowed classrooms from an Adventist academy. Today’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering also will support two projects in Myanmar — a preschool and a center of influence — and a health clinic in Brunei. Thank you for your generous offering.

By Andrew McChesney

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