

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of September 13, 2020**

**THEME: "Book of Instructions"**

**INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS**

**Sunday ..... Read II Timothy 3:7-17**

*"All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."* The Bible is the world's premiere book on true righteousness, the righteousness as declared by our Creator! Although there are many books about life written by human authors, none is infallible, as are the Holy Scriptures! It is one hundred per cent accurate. Not only does the Bible give us perfect instructions for living the right way by following its teaching in making choices for life on earth, it tells us how to live with eternal values! Humans disagree many times as to what is best, and that sometimes leads to conflict, and even fighting. So what is the final authority? It is what God says; His righteousness is perfect, no flaws! Since so many in our nation are not benefitting from Biblical knowledge, especially since reading the Bible was taken out of our public schools, our culture is changing because of the loss of the absolute authority. This has now resulted in a polarization, and even intolerance when there is disagreement. Only God is inerrant; His instruction is true righteousness. Failure to read the Bible is to deny yourself Divine instruction. Not good!

**INSTRUCTIONS ON THINKING**

**Monday ..... Read Philippians 4:8-12**

*"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think on these things."* Our actions are the result of our thinking, or should be! That means that proper instruction for our thought life is extremely valuable. Improper thoughts lead to improper actions, and that means trouble. Our minds can bring worry and fear when circumstances are not what we would like them to be. This results in a loss of joy and contentment. Proper thoughts lead to good things and a much more fulfilling life, so it is good to have Biblical instruction on forming our thoughts. Those who believe in God and His truth as revealed in the Bible will understand that nothing is too hard for God, and He has promised in Romans 8:28 to *"work all things together for good."* There is no problem on earth too hard for God, and by our faith in Christ as our Savior, God is our Heavenly Father with an indescribable love for us as His children. Is there any higher privilege than having God give Fatherly advice?

**INSTRUCTIONS ON LIVING**

**Tuesday ..... Read Psalm 119:127-133**

*"Order my steps in thy word: let not any iniquity have dominion over me."* This is an appropriate prayer for all believers, a good way to start a day. On a personal note, I made it what many people call a "life verse" way back in college when I asked God to *"order my steps"* and direct me into the career of His choosing for me. I can testify that He did just that: taking a business education major into a career as an educator in our public schools and now as a pastor in one of His local churches in this Church Age on His calendar. Neither of these was in my thinking in terms of my future at the time; and, from a human viewpoint, for which I had not been "properly trained;" at least not from the training arranged by humans. Now God did not give an overview of where He was leading, but He certainly did lead one step at a time. When God opens the door for the next move, it is necessary to take that step for Him to show the next one; and step by step, He leads us through our entire lives! What a journey it is!

## **INSTRUCTIONS ON LABOR**

**Wednesday** ..... **Read Colossians 3:22-24**

*"Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily as unto the Lord, and not unto men."* This instruction from God is for all believers in any field of endeavor. Yes, all Christians should want to please their supervisors and try hard to do just that, but Christians have a higher motivation to do their best. We are on God's earth to please Him; I might say to honor Him! Yes, it would be good to earn a raise in pay because of a job well done, but far better is to gain a reward in heaven and hear our Heavenly Father say "Well done." The truth is that if a believer goes about his or her daily work to please God, work, no matter how tough, can be a joy because it is an opportunity to please our God who is watching with "Fatherly pride." God has us on the job of His choosing for a far more important reason than earning a living. We are here on earth to be, as Jesus mentioned in Matthew 5:14, *"The light of the world."* That is a command for every day of our lives, not just Sunday in the Lord's house. Many co-workers may not go to church, but they can have the light of God right there on the job, the light of faithful Christians!

### **SPIRIT CONTROL**

**Thursday** ..... **Read Galatians 5:16-25**

*"Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh."* The Christian is one whose spiritual life has been restored at the moment of the decision to receive Christ as Savior. That is the power of which Jesus spoke at the time of His ascension when He gave orders to believers in Acts 1:8: *"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me..."* The question now becomes whether or not the believer will yield to the Spirit in the conduct of his or her daily life. To have a sense of the presence of the Holy Spirit in us will affect our decisions on where we go and what we do.

### **SCRIPTURAL GUIDANCE**

**Friday** ..... **Read John 16:13-14**

*"When He, the Spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth."* There are people who say they do not read the Bible because they do not understand it. I guess that may seem valid because the Bible does have some deep spiritual truth, but it also has some very simplistic instructions for living. Many Christians have a deeper understanding than others, but no one has the whole Bible mastered; even the most Biblically aware are learning new truths or new applications of truth all the time. The Holy Spirit will guide readers into the truth appropriate for their lives at any reading. As long as one truth is extracted, the time spent reading is well spent even if there was some confusion about the full text of what was read. There are gems of truth to be gained even in the most difficult of passages. The Spirit will guide people at the level where they are in their spiritual growth.

### **ENLIGHTENED SAINTS**

**Saturday** ..... **Read Matthew 5:14-16**

*"Ye are the light of the world... Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven."* All individuals who have been born of the Spirit by their decision to receive Jesus as their personal Savior are empowered to be the light of the world. They have an understanding of the mind of God, not because of superior intelligence, but because their bodies are the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit according to I Corinthians 6:19: *"What, know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost who is in you?"* That is the power source that makes believers the light in this dark world mentioned by God in Ephesians 6:12: *"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities,*

*against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”*  
The antidote to the world’s darkness is the light of Christians empowered by the Spirit. That light must not be hidden, but allowed to shine brightly daily!!