

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of March 3, 2024

THEME: "Salvation"

PLAN OF SALVATION

Sunday.. Read: I Peter 3:10-18

"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit." Because of the sin of Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, all offspring of man and woman are born sinners. They are born with a dead spirit. Man, being made in the image of God, are triune beings: body, soul, and spirit. We all have physical life but not spiritual awareness. To have spiritual awareness of the things of God, a person must be born again, born spiritually. To be saved from the penalty of sin and the power of sin is life's greatest joy. That is the benefit of being saved by faith in Christ on the merits of His shed blood. How is a person saved? A person is saved from sin's penalty by asking Christ to come into your heart as mentioned in John 1:12: *"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."* That decision puts a person in God's family with a home in heaven!

A LOVING GOD

Monday Read: I John 4:15-19

"We love him, because he first loved us." Our holy and righteous God made a way for sinful man to be made righteous. That is because of all things, He is a God of love. That is a major point of emphases in what may be the most familiar Bible verse. That, of course is John 3:16: *"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."* God sent His Son to pay the penalty of sin so man would have a way to be free from eternal death in hell. Our loving God pardons all who receive His Son to be their personal Savior! With that decision to receive Jesus as Savior, a person becomes a child in the family of God. That decision means that the God of the universe is our loving Father in heaven!

INSEPARABLE LOVE

Tuesday..... Read: Romans 8:35-39

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?" The love of God is an inseparable love. Once an individual has personally received Jesus, that individual is in the family of God, forever. That decision to receive Jesus gives an individual a home in heaven. That is the promise of I Peter 1:4: *"To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you."* Obviously, God's children are not perfect, and will sin. But our loving Heavenly Father is quick to forgive if the sinning child repents and asks forgiveness. That is the assurance of I John 1:9: *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* That cleansing is a daily need because there are many sins of omission, the failure to do something our heavenly Father expects us to do.

WILLING SAVIOR

Wednesday Read: Luke 19:7-10

"For The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."
The apostle Luke states the reason for the first appearance of Jesus on earth. The Jewish people have always been looking for their Messiah to come to earth to set up His Kingdom, and rightfully so. That will happen: when Jesus returns to earth. The calendar of God had planned for a Church Age before the thousand year reign of Jesus. His first coming was to be the Lamb of God to shed His blood to pay for the sins of man. On the merits of His shed blood, believers are made righteous citizens of heaven. As citizens of heaven, Christians are the ambassadors of Christ, the high privilege mentioned in II Corinthians 5:20: *"Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God."* That means God is trusting us to get that message of the world's Savior to all we can!

THE GETHSEMANE PRAYER

Thursday Read: Luke 22:40-42

"Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." When faced with the reality of a death on the cross, Jesus spent time in prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. In this critical hour of His life, and facing a terrible crucifixion, the prayer of Jesus was to consider another way to have sinners cleansed from sin. It is here that Jesus showed His humanity. He did, however, very quickly emphasize that He was willing to die the death of a sinner if there were no other way. There was not, and Jesus went to the cross!

REPENTANT SINNER

Friday Read: I John 1:5-9

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Human beings are made to have fellowship with our Creator. Every person has a yearning to worship God! They will do so to satisfy this hunger, either by God's revealed truth or by a man made religion. The only way to have that spiritual hunger completely satisfied is to make a personal confession of sin and ask Jesus, the Savior of the world, into your heart to forgive your sin. That decision is expressed in a very clear manner in Revelation 3:20, where God compares it to receiving someone into your house: *"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."*

PART OF A BODY

Saturday Read: I Corinthians 12:14-20

"But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him." It is the will of God that all His people who have received Christ be a part of a local church. God considers believers as the spiritual body of Christ. Each believer is a part of that body with an important personal function. The local church is God's light in the community where He has placed them. All believers are to bring light in their community, and each believer is vital to the work of the local church where has

placed them. If any part of the local church body is not functioning, that is a handicapped body.