

## **DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of March 17, 2024**

**THEME: "Separation"**

### **TRANSFORMED LIFE**

**Sunday .....Read: Romans 12:1-10**

*"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."* When an individual receives Jesus personally as Savior, that person has a transformed life. As a child of God and citizen of heaven, there is a brand new perspective. Life's goals and ambitions take on an eternal perspective. The things of this world, as the hymn writer wrote, "grow strangely dim." As a child in the family of God, the believer wants to please God in what he or she thinks and does. Certainly we want to do all we can for family and friends, but all of those relationships take on the purpose of bringing glory to God. Family and friends are the beneficiaries of the transformed life of a true Christian. Jesus calls those transformed lives the light of their world.

### **GODLINESS**

**Monday .....Read: Titus 2:11-15**

*"Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world."* As a child of God, the true Christian should want to live a godly life, uncontaminated by worldly pursuits. The desire now, as a child in the family of God, is to satisfy both natural and spiritual desires. Yes, there are still physical needs and desires, but satisfying them should not be in excess. Trying to satisfy spiritual hunger by engaging in worldly lusts does not work. The hunger of the soul and spirit require the power of the Holy Spirit of God. His presence will bring true joy and peace, plus the power to resist the forces of evil. It is vital for believers to stay in fellowship with the Holy Spirit and with fellow believers in a local church true to God's Word!

### **SUBMISSION**

**Tuesday ..... Read: James 4:5-8**

*"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."* The underlying battle going on in earth is the battle between God and His righteousness and the attacks of Satan and his forces of darkness. Jesus and His followers are the light in this world of darkness. The Christian is a target of the devil and must be resisted to be effective for God. To stay alert to satanic intrusion, the believer is compelled to engage in daily Bible reading and prayer. This provides power and protection in the spiritual battles facing the Christian. Jesus is the General of the Army of God in the war against the devil and his rulers of the darkness in the world. Being born of the Spirit means that the believer's body is the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit providing the power to live a victorious life! One of the ways to resist the devil is to bring captive souls into the freedom offered by our Savior when He paid the penalty of sin with His precious blood on the cross of Calvary!

### **INDWELLING OF THE SPIRIT**

**Wednesday ..... Read:**  
**I Corinthians 3:14-16** *"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?"* What an amazing spiritual truth this is! God is in us, in the person of the Holy Spirit. That gives us the power to be a light for our good and for the glory of God. By being sensitive and constantly aware of the ever-abiding presence of the Holy Spirit in us, we will resist the worldly temptation of our enemy the devil and his forces. The Holy Spirit gives believers guidance in understanding God's truth, the promise of Jesus in John 16:13, and the guidance to reach lost souls as implied in I Corinthians 3:9: *"For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building."* Never should we allow anything to quench the power of the indwelling Spirit as warned in I Thessalonians 5:19: *"Quench not the Spirit."*

### **ETERNAL SECURITY**

**Thursday ..... Read: John 6:35-40**  
*"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."* Once a person becomes part of the family of God by making that decision to receive Jesus as Savior, he or she is a member of God's family forever! God never disowns a child in His family. If a child of God goes astray, God does what He has to do to bring that wayward child back into proper fellowship with Him and his brothers and sisters in the family of God. God never disowns an erring child; He corrects them.

### **CITIZENSHIP**

**Friday ..... Read: Philippians 3:15-20**  
*"But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ."* Christians have a dual citizenship. The one is a citizen in the nation where God placed us to be His ambassador. The other, by our faith in Christ, is in heaven. That citizenship in heaven gives us the right to approach God's throne in prayer, the highest of privileges! That heavenly citizenship also gives us the responsibility to be a witness for our Lord while living where we are on His earth. There is no greater responsibility, or joy! Our Lord, the Captain of our salvation, is depending on us to share the good news of salvation. That is a message of freedom from spiritual darkness and from an eternity in the hell prepared for the devil. Citizens of heaven; ambassadors on earth: Our calling!

### **FOREIGNERS ON EARTH**

**Saturday ..... Read: I Peter 2:4-10**  
*"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."* The Holy Spirit, in this passage of Scripture, lists four identifications of believers: a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and a special people (oddballs to the world, but special to God). These special people, true Christians, are called by God to "show forth His praises." We believers have been called by God out of the darkness of the world into His marvelous light! What a joy! What a privilege! To be called by God to be a light on this dark earth is the highest calling possible. We live on God's earth in the place He wants us to serve Him. We are to bring God's light to our neighborhood

and our workplace. Jesus instructed His followers in Matthew 5:16 not to hide the light: *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."*