

Week 52 Day 1

Readings: John 19:38-42; Revelation 15; Psalm 143; Ecclesiastes 9:13-18; Nehemiah 7.

Focus Verse: "And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!" (Revelation 15:3)

Key Concept: Moses and the Lamb (Revelation 15:3). Several New Testament passages contrast the Law of Moses with the Gospel of Christ, pointing out the superiority and sufficiency of the latter. We are not under the Law of Moses today, and cannot be saved by it (cf. Galatians 5:1-4). But that law was not evil or poorly designed. It served a purpose to prepare for Christ. Moses and the Lamb are not competitors, but co-laborers. Moses, a great prophet and leader, pointed to Jesus, the greatest prophet and leader of all. Moses was a servant; Jesus is Lord and King. Both played crucial roles in pointing the way to heaven. We, too, can sing about the work of Moses as he prepared for the coming of the sinless Lamb of God.

Action: As you obey Christ today, be thankful for the work of Moses and other prophets in telling us about Him.

Week 52 Day 2

Readings: John 20:1-10; Revelation 16; Psalm 144; Ecclesiastes 10:1-7; Nehemiah 8-9.

Focus Verse: "And I heard another from the altar saying, `Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments.'" (Revelation 16:7)

Key Concept: God's Righteous Judgment (Revelation 16). This chapter presents two interpretations of the judgments of the seven bowls. The wicked blasphemed God and refused to repent of their evil. They blamed God. The righteous who had suffered for the Lord commended the justice of God. They praised God. From a carnal perspective, punishment of the wicked may seem cruel, but those who hate evil and love good will be able to understand Divine justice.

Action: Develop your love for God and righteousness.

Week 52 Day 3

Readings: John 20:11-18; Revelation 17; Psalm 145; Ecclesiastes 10:8-15; Nehemiah 10-11.

Focus Verse: "The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication." (Revelation 17:4)

Key Concept: The Devil's Woman (Revelation 17:1-6). Regardless of specific interpretations of this book, there is no question that the woman described here is the devil's woman. She is the antithesis of everything good and pure. Unlike the holy woman who gave birth to the male Child in chapter 12, this woman is dressed in sin. She is all decked out to attract carnal men, who don't even notice that her mouth drips with the blood of the righteous. How hideous sin looks to God!

Action: See sin as God does and adorn your life with purity.

Week 52 Day 4

Readings: John 20:19-23; Revelation 18; Psalm 146; Ecclesiastes 10:16-20; Nehemiah 12-13.

Focus Verse: "And I heard another voice from heaven saying, `Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.'" (Revelation 18:4)

Key Concept: Dying with the Evil Woman (Revelation 18). The woman introduced in disgusting detail in chapter 17 is destroyed in chapter 18. But before the fall is complete, a call goes out to the righteous to come away from her. We must live in the world, but we must not partake of the world's evil. That principle is presented from Genesis to Revelation, and must be carefully applied in our daily lives. God expects us to show a positive example to those around us.

Action: Let your light shine--it can overcome darkness!

Week 52 Day 5

Readings: John 20:24-31; Revelation 19; Psalm 147; Ecclesiastes 11:1-6; Esther 1-2.

Focus Verse: "And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, `Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!" (Revelation 19:6)

Key Concept: "The Lord God Omnipotent Reigns" (Revelation 19:1-9). The book of Revelation makes it clear that praising God is a major activity--perhaps the primary activity--in heaven. There are enough reasons to praise Him that the songs can continue for eternity. Here, the praise is because of His power and victory. The evil and murderous woman, Babylon, has fallen. God reigns with all power. What a privilege to join that heavenly host praising God in the victory celebration!

Action: Praise the Lord God. He is Omnipotent!

Week 52 Day 6

Readings: John 21:1-14; Revelation 20; Psalm 148; Ecclesiastes 11:7-10; Esther 3-5.

Focus Verse: "And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire." (Revelation 20:15)

Key Concept: "Written in the Book of Life" (Revelation 20:15). Commentators differ on the primary application of this text, but its underlying message is unmistakable. There is a clear separation of the righteous (who praise the Lord and reign with Him) from the unrighteous (who are cast out to endless suffering). In this life, the rewards of righteousness are not always apparent, and the consequences of evil may not be immediate. But ultimately, God will righteously judge all of us. Will your name be in the Book of Life?

Action: Be sure God has your name in the right book!

Week 52 Day 7

Readings: John 21:15-19; Revelation 21; Psalm 149; Ecclesiastes 12:1-8; Esther 6-8.

Focus Verse: "And I heard a loud voice from 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 will be with them and be their God.'" (Revelation 21:3)

Key Concept: "The Tabernacle of God is With Men" (Revelation 21:3). The goal is accomplished. As the Bible draws to a close, God and men are dwelling together in fellowship. That is how it started in Genesis, but continual sin had forced God to separate from men. Finally, Christ came to enable the fellowship to be restored (John 1:14), and the closing pages of Scripture tell us that the work was completed.

Action: Dwell with God. Don't let sin crowd Him out.