



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

NINILCHIK

JANUARY 15TH, 2023

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING



2 Chronicles 14:1-15:19

In 1989, our dear shepherd at that time, Pastor Ron Blough, initiated our reading through a portion of the 66 books of the Bible as a congregation, typically a chapter each Sunday. Since then, we have been through the entire Bible one full time and are currently in Second Chronicles, the 14th book of the Bible.



TODAY'S SERVICE



1. Hymn #555 - "There Shall Be Showers of Blessing"
 2. Opening Prayer & Announcements
 3. Hymn #498 - "Whiter than Snow"
 4. Hymn #504 - "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"
 5. Hymn #687 - "Till the Storm Passes By"
 6. Reading: **Brother Teagun Q.**
 7. **Message:** "Oh, Blessed Distress!"
 8. Hymn #680 - "Rejoice in the Lord"
 9. Benediction
 10. Sunday Evening Bible Study
Holy War #60; James 2:14-26
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OH, BLESSED DISTRESS!

An Introduction to Godly Fear

“...but when in their distress they turned to the LORD, the God of Israel, and sought Him, He was found by them.” 2 CHRONICLES 15:4, ESV

I. the BREAKDOWN of the CHAPTERS (cf. 1 Kings 15:8-24)

A. Chapter Fourteen

1. Asa broke down pillars & cut down Asherim, vv1-5
2. Asa builds up military defenses, vv6-8
3. Asa beseeches the LORD to battle Ethiopians, vv9-14

B. Chapter Fifteen

1. Asa hears the Word of the LORD, vv1-7
2. Asa heeds the Word of the LORD, vv4-12
3. Asa hallows the Word of the LORD, vv13-19

II. the BLESSING from OUR TEXT

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. PROVERBS 9:10, ESV

A. the Distress

1. תָּצַר (*tzar*); first used, Gen 14:19-20
 - a. external circumstance, Deut 4:29-30
 - b. eternal concerns, Psa 4:1; Prov 9:10

B. the Turn

1. שׁוּב (*shoov*); first used, Gen 3:19
 - a. return (conversion), Psa 19:7
 - b. repentance, Deut 4:30

C. the Seeking

1. בָּקַשׁ (*ba-QASH*); first used, Gen 31:39
 - a. penitence, Deut 4:28-29
 - b. passion, Psa 27:4
 - c. persistent pursuit, Psa 34:14; Matt 7:7
 - d. patience, Psa 105:4; Song 3:1, 5:6-8, 6:3; Matt 7:7

D. the Finding

1. מָצָא (*ma-TZA*); first used, Gen 2:20
 - a. present, Psa 46:1
 - b. peace, Song 8:10

QUOTE of the WEEK

The other word is, “with godly fear”; and this suggests that we should serve God IN THE SPIRIT OF HOLY CHEERFULNESS. What sort of fear is this? for “perfect love casteth out fear, because fear hath torment.” Observe that it is the fear that hath torment which perfect love casts out, but not this godly fear, which is quite consistent with our joy in receiving a kingdom. The more we have of this godly fear the better for us. We ought to fear lest we should offend the Lord even while we are serving him; fear lest the sacrifice should be a blemished one, and so be rejected at the altar; fear lest there should be something about our spirit and temper which would grieve the Lord. He is a jealous God, and must be served with holy carefulness. O for more of it! I do not know how my brethren feel who say they are perfect, but I am obliged to confess that when I would do good evil is present with me, and that though I would serve God like a seraph without one stray thought, or one selfish desire, yet I have by no means reached this attainment. I press forward towards the mark, and hope to reach it, but it is at present far beyond me. Oh, brethren and sisters, much of holy fear should be upon us, because we may so easily offend the Lord when we think we are pleasing him. Beware of presumptuous boldness before God. Let us not be rash with our speech, much less rude and coarse. I know that modes of worship which offend *my* taste may, nevertheless, be accepted with God, because he sees through the rough shell, and judges according to the sweet kernel; yet I fear that thoughtless, bragging, noisy service must offend the Lord, for it is so unlike that which was offered by his gentle, tender, well-beloved Son. If Christ be the model which he sets before us, some are far away from the mark. At any rate, let us never wantonly go into a wild, boisterous mannerism; for though we be the Lord’s children, and very near to him, yet he is in heaven and we are upon the earth; he is the thrice holy, and we are sinners. The psalmist says, “Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice with trembling.”

There is another form of godly fear which comes over every genuine Christian at times—the fear lest after all he should not be serving God at all... but it is needful that we question ourselves as to whether we are indeed the servants of God, or are living for ourselves.

Knowing that God is to be served in his own way, and in that alone, there ought to be a godly fear as to whether we are walking in his ordinances or are following the traditions of men. God does not care for worship which he has never required at our hands. If a man invents a ceremony, he may think it helpful and instructive; but he has no right to practice it if God has not appointed it.... [EMPHASES *in original*]

“Acceptable Service” from the text, Hebrews 12:28-29

a sermon delivered on January 15th, 1882

by Charles Haddon Spurgeon

Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit, Volume 28, Sermon No. 1,639

This Week's Bible Portions from *Robert Murray McCheyne's "Daily Bread"*

JANUARY 2023

| FAMILY READINGS | | | PRIVATE READINGS | |
|------------------------|------------|-----------|-------------------------|---------|
| Genesis 16 | Matthew 15 | 15 | Nehemiah 5 | Acts 15 |
| Genesis 17 | Matthew 16 | 16 | Nehemiah 6 | Acts 16 |
| Genesis 18 | Matthew 17 | 17 | Nehemiah 7 | Acts 17 |
| Genesis 19 | Matthew 18 | 18 | Nehemiah 8 | Acts 18 |
| Genesis 20 | Matthew 19 | 19 | Nehemiah 9 | Acts 19 |
| Genesis 21 | Matthew 20 | 20 | Nehemiah 10 | Acts 20 |
| Genesis 22 | Matthew 21 | 21 | Nehemiah 11 | Acts 21 |
| Genesis 23 | Matthew 22 | 22 | Nehemiah 12 | Acts 22 |

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