

Readings from Matthew chapter 24—April 10th-16th, 2022

45 "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? 46 Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. 47 Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. 48 But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' 49 and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, 50 the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, 51 and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Sunday: **What examples are there of a faithful and wise servant? Please pray** for the Lord's continued blessing upon Providence (Pittsburgh, Pa.) RPC's growth in grace, service, and number. **Pray** for Geelong (Australia) RPC's Session as it meets tomorrow night. **Pray** for Christ Church RP (Indianapolis, Ind.) and its elders; **pray especially** that a pastor could soon be installed there.

Monday: **What are ways in which you can be a faithful and wise servant? Pray** for Beth and Zach Smith, missionaries to South Sudan, as they are in the U.S. awaiting the birth of their third baby, who is due this month. **Pray** for the Urdu Centre for Reformed Theology and for the establishment of Reformed churches in Lahore, the capital and largest city in the Province of Punjab, Pakistan.

Tuesday: **What is the food being spoke of in v. 45? Please uplift in prayer** the RPCNA Education & Publication Board as they meet next week. (COVID has brought challenges to all facets of publishing ministry, such as paper shortages and shipping uncertainties; but it has also brought blessings since people are reading more. **Pray for wisdom** for the Board.) **Pray** for the Covenanter Bookshop in Northern Ireland, that it would be effective in its ministry.

Wednesday: **What blessing will the faithful and wise servant receive? Praise God** with Westminster, Colo., RPC for their newly elected elder and deacon; give thanks for their valuable contributions and diligent service since their ordination. **Pray** for the Atlanta Temporary Governing Body as it meets tomorrow evening.

Thursday: **What are examples of an evil servant? Give thanks** with Orlando, Fla, RPC for God's comforting presence. **Pray** for the installation of Rev. Kenneth Stewart tomorrow evening at Stornoway (Scotland) RPC. **Pray** for those at the Nantes (France) Church who have no family members who believe in Jesus.

Friday: **What will happen to evil servants? Pray** for healing and encouragement after the two memorial services held in Elkhart, Ind., RPC in October. **Pray** for Mukonoso (Kobe, Japan) RPC, especially for the children there, that they would be led to faith in Christ.

Saturday: **How much warning will be given to the evil servants? Please pray**

for those in Stillwater, Okla., RPC who continue to grieve the loss of loved ones, some of whom were lost in miscarriage. **Pray** for the evangelistic service tomorrow at Stranraer (Scotland) RPC. **Pray** for ARPC's service tomorrow.

Atlanta

Reformed

Presbyterian

Church

The Lord's Day

April 10, 2022

Meeting every week at

574 Western Avenue

(corner of Western and Walnut Street)

Atlanta, Georgia

Worship at 3:30 PM

Pastor Frank J. Smith, Ph.D., D.D.

franksmith76@gmail.com
https://atlanta-rpc.org
(770)241-3946

Proclaiming the Kingship of Jesus Christ

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions

The Call to Worship Colossians 3:1-3

*The Invocation

*Psalm 40A “I Waited Long upon the Lord”

Scripture Reading Isaiah 11:1-10

*Psalm 2 “Why Do Heathen Nations
Rage?”

Pastoral Prayer

*Psalm 14A “The Fool Is Saying in His Heart”

Scripture Text Proverbs 28

The Sermon “Reverence versus Hardness”

*Prayer

*Psalm 86B “Thy Way Teach Me, Lord”

*Benediction

*Psalm 134B “Bless the Lord, All Servants of the Lord”

** Congregation will please stand.*

We are so glad that you could join us today! Please be sure to return next week and bring a friend.

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions & Answers

“Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against Thee.”—Psalm 119:11. “The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.”—Psalm 19:7. “O how love I thy law! It is my meditation all the day.”—Psalm 119:97.

Q. 106. *What do we pray for in the sixth petition?* A. In the sixth petition, which is, And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, we pray that God would either keep us from being tempted to sin, or support and deliver us when we are tempted.

Q. 107. *What doth the conclusion of the Lord's prayer teach us?* A. The conclusion of the Lord's prayer, which is, For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen, teacheth us to take our encouragement in prayer from God only, and in our prayers to praise him, ascribing kingdom, power and glory to him. And in testimony of our desire, and assurance to be heard, we say, Amen.

For your convenience, a tithe box is located at the back.

Proverbs 28:14 “Reverence versus Hardness”
Theme: Solomon contrasts fear of God and hardness of heart.

I. Fear of God [a theme with which Proverbs started: Prov. 1:7]

A. Fear

1. In reference to God, reverence, awe

2. Connotation of fear in the sense of dread or trembling

3. A reference to fear of God : holy awe and reverence; respect for His glory, goodness, and gov't.; fear of offending Him; fear of incurring His displeasure; a distrust of one's own goodness and sufficiency; necessity of confessing and forsaking sins

B. Happiness—Philippians 2:12-18

II. Hardness of Heart

A. What is meant by hardness of heart?

1. Mocking at fear—Psalm 10:6; 36:1

2. Defying God—Psalm 10:8-11

3. Pride—Psalm 10:3-4

4. Resisting God's rod of correction
5. Rejecting the Word of God

B. Notice that the text talks about one who hardens his heart

C. Falling into mischief (evil)

1. Temporal misfortune—whatever you sow, you will also reap
2. Eternal punishment—the fires of hell, forever
3. The lack of proper fear will lead to the fear of dread

Application

A. Notice the word “always”—no matter what the circumstances;

throughout eternity

B. What kind of a heart do you have today?

1. It behooves you to examine yourself
2. Characteristics of a soft heart—conviction of sin; contrition; conscientiousness; confession of God's grace; consecration to

God

3. Calvin: “My heart I offer to you, Lord, promptly and sincerely”
4. the Lord Jesus, who provides for our salvation, has deep within Himself the fear of the Lord (Isa. 11:2-3)