

Readings from Matthew chapter 16—August 29th-September 4th, 2021

21 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. **22** Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, “Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!”

23 But He turned and said to Peter, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.” **24** Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. **25** For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. **26** For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? **27** For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works. **28** Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom.”

Sunday: **What was the role of the elders, chief priests, and scribes? Give thanks** for a return to Sabbath school programming and fellowship opportunities at Shawnee, Kan., RPC as coronavirus restrictions begin to ease. **Pray** for Lafayette, Ind., RPC.

Monday: **Why did these Jewish leaders oppose Jesus? Give thanks** for the resumption of prayer societies at Sparta, Ill., RPC, and pray that they would be increasingly a people of individual and corporate prayer. **Pray** for the preaching of the word in the Australian RP congregations; **pray** that the country of Australia would be delivered from martial law and tyranny, and that the leaders would submit to Jesus.

Tuesday: **Why did Jesus have to die? Pray** that Oswego, N.Y., RPC’s children will grow in grace and love for the Lord. **Pray** for those in the Galway (Ireland) RP Fellowship who have been facing various struggles.

Wednesday: **Why did Jesus accuse Peter of being Satan? Pray** for the nursing home ministry of Washington, Iowa, RPC, that Lord’s Day afternoon services would be able to resume after a long hiatus due to COVID restrictions. **Pray** for Cyprus, particularly its Turkish-dominated northern region, where an American minister has been charged with illegally importing Christian materials.

Thursday: **What does it mean to take up your cross? Pray** that, as schools and colleges reopen in nearby communities, there might be opportunity for Walton, N.Y., RPC to connect with new families. **Pray** for peace to come to Ethiopia, which is being ravaged by a brutal civil war; **pray** that the church there, particular in the region of Tigray, would continue to grow, and to show the love of God to the people there.

Friday: **Why is your soul of such high value? Pray** with Lafayette, Ind., RPC

that they would love their neighbors and be diligent in sharing the gospel with them. **Pray** for the Nantes (France) RP Fellowship, as it awaits approval of its building plans.

Saturday: **If we are saved by grace through faith, why will we be rewarded according to our works? Pray** with Hebron (Clay Center, Kan.) RPC that the Lord would bless their families who have young children, most of whom are in Christian schools or are being homeschooled. **Pray** for the service at ARPC tomorrow.

Atlanta

Reformed

Presbyterian

Church

The Lord’s Day

August 29, 2021

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.

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Proclaiming the Kingship of Jesus Christ

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions

The Call to Worship

Psalm 34:18

*The Invocation

*Psalm 106A

“O Praise the Lord! O Thank the Lord!”

Scripture Reading

Numbers 22:22-41

*Psalm 106E

“At Meribah They Angered Him”

Pastoral Prayer

*Psalm 78C

“Yet in the Desert Still They Sinned”

Scripture Text

Revelation 2:12-17

17

The Sermon

“Letter to the Church in Pergamum” (Part 2)

*Prayer

*Psalm 25C

“The Lord is Good and Just”

*Benediction

*Psalm 134B

“Praise 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

“Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.”—*Psalm 95:2*. “Quench not the Spirit.”—*I Thessalonians 5:19*.

Q. 36. What are the benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification? A. The benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification, are, assurance of God’s love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, increase of grace, and perseverance therein to the end.

Q. 81. What is forbidden in the tenth commandment? A. The tenth commandment forbiddeth all discontentment with our own estate, envying or grieving at the good of our neighbor, and all inordinate motions and affections to anything that is his.

Q. 82. Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God? A. No mere man since the fall is able in this life perfectly to keep the commandments of God, but doth daily break them in thought, word and deed.

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

Revelation 2:12-17 “Letter to the Church at Pergamum” (Part 2)
Theme: Christ warns the church that is lax in discipline.

I. Encouragement

A. Danger: “I know where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is”

B. Faithfulness: “you hold fast My Name and did not deny My faith”

C. Martyrdom—including Antipas

II. Problem

A. “But I have a few things against you”

1. Pergamum is one of 7 churches which is rebuked by her Lord

2. The basic problem—a blurring of the distinction between the church and the world, and the refusal by the church to exercise discipline against those advocating compromise

B. Those following Balaam

1. Balaam was one of the most despicable characters in the Bible
2. Some in the church at Pergamum held to the teaching of Balaam

C. The Nicolaitans

1. Fostered indulging in pagan feasts and committing immoralities
2. The significance of Nicolaitanism
 - a. An easy-going Christianity would have been wiped out
 - b. One compromise would have led to another

III. Warning and Promise

A. Warning: “Repent therefore, or else, I am coming to you quickly; and I will make war against them by the sword of My mouth; he who has

an ear, let him hear . . .”

B. Promise

1. “To the one who overcomes”
2. “To him I will give of the hidden manna
3. “and I will give him a white stone, and a new name . . .”

Application

A. Do not compromise with the world

1. So many temptations!
2. Examples: liberation theology; feminism; sexual immorality/impurity; denying the exclusive nature of the gospel

B. Feast on the one who is the true manna out of heaven