

Bible Class Notes – Studies in The Old Testament – Lesson 92B

Revision - The Christian Pilgrimage – Judgement and Deliverance.

This week – revising our lessons on how God blesses those who exercise faith in Him.

*“Thy mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; and
Thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds.”*

Psalm 36 v5

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

| Day | Bible Reading | Tick When Read |
|-----------|---|----------------|
| Sunday | Ruth 1v 1-22 (Ruth puts God first in her life) | |
| Monday | 1 Samuel 3 v1-21 (Samuel faithfully answers God’s call) | |
| Tuesday | 2 Timothy 3 v1-17 (Know the scriptures) | |
| Wednesday | 1 Samuel 13 v1-14 (Saul proudly disobeys God) | |
| Thursday | Psalm 36 v1-12 (No fear of God in the wicked) | |
| Friday | Mark 8 v27-38 (Let us deny self - follow the Lord) | |
| Saturday | Psalm 115 v1-18 (Worship the only true God) | |

A hymn reminding us that submission to The Lord Jesus Christ brings forgiveness and peace: (404)

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| 1. I bring my sins to Thee, The sins I cannot count, That I now cleansed may be In Thy once-opened fount: I bring them, Saviour, all to Thee; The burden is too great for me. | 2. My heart to Thee I bring, The heart I cannot read, A faithless, wandering thing, An evil heart indeed: I bring it, Saviour, now to Thee That fixed and faithful it may be. | 3. My life I bring to Thee, I would not be my own; O Saviour, may I be Thine ever, Thine alone! My heart, my life, my all, I bring To Thee, my Saviour and my King. |
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The people we have considered over the last nine weeks can be identified as being in one of two Groups – A) Unbelievers or B) Believers.

- **Group A – Unbelievers have the following in common; They:**
 - Have selfish, greedy, proud attitudes. No care for what they think, say, or do.
 - Live for themselves - as if God, their Creator, does not exist.
 - Have no thought for their soul or its’ eternal destiny.
 - Live for the here and now – no thought of Eternal Judgement for their sin.
- **Group B – Believers have the following in common; They have:**
 - A heartfelt concern for their sin before their Creator God.
 - Humbly sought and found forgiveness for their sin. Looking towards Heaven.
 - Received the gift of faith from God, to believe that Christ died for them.
 - Obedient hearts – believingly reading God’s Word, praying, and testifying.
 - A desire for fellowship with other believers, turning from all worldly things.

EDT Bible Class Take Home Sheet

88. Ruth the Moabite Finds Faith in the One True God and a New Home

- Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah were all widowed. Naomi plans to return to Bethlehem.
- Ruth, hearing of the One True God from Naomi, turned from her idol worship and found forgiveness from the Lord. She chose to return with Naomi.
- Ruth gleaned for corn in Boaz’s fields. He was kind to her and married her.

Ruth was blessed by God for her faithfulness, becoming the grandmother of David.

89. Samuel, Given to God by Hannah, Hears and Answers God’s Call.

- Hannah kept her vow to give her son to the Lord, to serve in The Tabernacle.
- As a young boy he heard God’s call to faith and repentance. He repented.
- All through his life as God’s Prophet he faithfully and humbly served the Lord.
- He stood against Eli’s unbelieving sons, and against King Saul’s sinful pride.
- Power had not corrupted him - he lived in deep respect of God’s holy standards.

Samuel was consistent in his faith and trust in God. Are we consistent in our belief?

90. The People Demand a King - A Ruler and Judge in Place of God.

- Samuel is now approaching the end of his life as Priest, Prophet and Judge.
- The people had so much to thank God and Samuel for, yet were dissatisfied.
- The rebellious people demand a king, rejecting God’s gracious rule of leadership, freedom, and fairness. They want to be like other nations.
- God said to Samuel, *“They have not rejected thee, but they have rejected Me.”*

Are we unbelievers who reject God’s rule, ignoring Him and wanting our own way?

91. Saul’s Pride and Unbelief brought his Downfall and a Lost Eternity.

- God gave Saul wonderful opportunities for a blessed and useful life. BUT proudly he rejected God, rebelling against His Word and His commands.
- Saul impatiently assumed the Priest’s role - sacrificing to God, sinning greatly.
- He disobeys God by keeping the Amalekites’ possessions and King Agag alive. When challenged by Samuel he made excuses - blaming others for his sin.
- Saul became a moody, vicious, evil-tempered man, even to his own son.
- He forced Samuel to retreat from him – his kingdom was torn by civil-war.
- Driven to despair, Saul turned his back on God, secretly consulting a witch.
- Saul, suffering a disastrous defeat in battle, takes his own life. (1 Samuel 31).

Beware of being proud like Saul! It will only bring us down with tragic consequences.

Prayerfully discern - Am I like faithful Ruth and Samuel, who believed?

OR like the rebellious people and proud Saul who refused to believe?

We all start life as rebel sinners but God graciously offers forgiveness to all who will sincerely repent and turn to Him. Have we done this yet?

Paul wrote, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; ... For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.” *Romans 1 v16,17*