February 4th Readings

SONG 1:1-4:16

2 CORINTHIANS 8:16-24

PSALM 50:1-23

PROVERBS 22:22-23

Are animal sacrifices what God wants from the Israelites? Well, yes. That is what the law demanded. But, in truth, the sacrifices that the Israelites made already belonged to Him. He really wants a man's heart. He wants a person who trusts and depends on Him. We need to realize that God provides everything to us. Satan intrudes into our mind and convinces us that we are in charge, that we make things to be this way or that. He used the same temptation with Adam and Eve. Eat the forbidden fruit and take charge of their own life and be like God. We face the same temptation daily. Yes we must obey God's commands. Yes we must offer our bodies as living sacrifices. And we must come to Him humbly knowing our place in things. He is God in charge of everything, and life only comes through Him.

February 5th Readings

SONG 5:1-8:14

2 CORINTHIANS 9:1-15

PSALM 51:1-19

PROVERBS 22:24-25

Psalm 51:1-19

God knows our sin. We know our sin. Sin is a constant struggle by all men. All men and women before us had this same struggle. We can be cleansed. Daily we must seek God first and obey His instructions. In verses 10-12 are words that we could pray daily to help us stay focused during our day. "Create in me a pure heart" - if we are pure in heart we will be further from sin. "Renew a steadfast spirit within me" - this spirit will help us

be unwavering when the temptation of sin comes. "Do not cast me from your presence" - without this daily presence of God in our lives we will fall to sin. "Do not take your Holy Spirit from me" - the Holy Spirit helps us and keeps us connected to God when Satan tempts us. "Restore to me the joy of your salvation" - there is joy in this salvation and with this joy we become strong. "Grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me" - this willingness to live our lives for our Lord, to serve Him daily and obey His every word will sustain us when we are tempted. This doesn't mean we will never fall, but we can get up and continue the race.

February 6th Readings
ISAIAH 1:1-2:22
2 CORINTHIANS 10:1-18
PSALM 52:1-9
PROVERBS 22:26-27

Isaiah 1:1-2:22

A world of sin, full of people who are rebellious, self-fulfilling, corrupt and evil, was all around them. That world seems a lot like the world we live in now. Imagine the frustration and disappointment God had and still has in His creation. I am so thankful He doesn't give up on us. I am thankful for His son and the sacrifice on the cross. God knew people would always need redemption from their sins. God so desires for us to have a pure heart, a giving nature and to serve those who are hurting or helpless. He wants us to spend our lives seeking to help and teach, thus making this world a better place. If we don't, we will be lost and those we could have taught will also be lost. Chapter 2:28, "Rebels and sinners will both be broken and those who forsake the Lord will perish."

February 7th Readings
ISAIAH 3:1-5:30
2 CORINTHIANS 11:1-15
PSALM 53:1-6
PROVERBS 22:28-29

2 Corinthians 11:1-15

Paul is warning the Church about the danger of false teachers. He tells them they can be deceived just as Eve was deceived. The same warning applies to the Church today. There were those who preached a different Jesus, a different spirit and a different gospel. There are many who teach things that are not in unison with the word of God today as well. We, as the Body of Christ, must always look to the word and compare the teachings of the men who teach. If we don't keep in unison with the Word, selfish ways and rebellion will begin to creep into the body and change what was established by our Lord. He is Lord! It is His Church! Why should man seek to change the Word? Satan, who is continually looking for a rebellious heart to plant a seed of destruction, along with man's desire to be in control leads to these problems. Let this not be us brothers and sisters in Christ. We must humble ourselves and seek His truth in the Word.

February 8th Readings
ISAIAH 6:1-7:25
2 CORINTHIANS 11:16-33
PSALM 54:1-7
PROVERBS 23:1-3

Isaiah 6:1-7:25 and 2 Corinthians 11:16-33

"Here am I send me." Will you go? When I think about spreading the gospel and doing so no matter what it might cost me, I feel fear and my desire is lacking. In reading 2 Corinthians 11:16-33 you will find the terrible persecution that Paul suffered in trying to

spread the word. I pray that our desire as Christians will be like Paul and we will be able to be less selfish. I pray that we all might say, "Here am I send me." Just think, if we did as Paul, how many more souls would spend eternity in Heaven.

February 9th Readings
ISAIAH 8:1-9:21
2 CORINTHIANS 12:1-10
PSALM 55:1-23
PROVERBS 23:4-5

Proverbs 23:4-5

The theme in this world is to get rich and to have as much as you can to make you happy, even if you have to sacrifice your family, morals, values, health or integrity. Many listen to Satan and believe they are clever enough to not be brought down to ruin while getting rich. What does money do for us really? It does allow us to be comfortable and enjoy our time on this earth, but at what cost? God clearly warns us against these things. Riches will not last! Our families, our bodies and our souls are worth so much more.

February 10th Readings
ISAIAH 10:1-11:16
2 CORINTHIANS 12:11-21
PSALM 56:1-13
PROVERBS 23:6-8

David the King had many enemies. The jealous Saul wanted him dead. The Philistines, whom David had beaten time and again certainly wanted him to be gone. But David

walked by faith and not by sight. The physical realities and circumstances around David often appeared very dire indeed. But David trusted in God to deliver Him. He believed in the unseen spiritual reality, which is the same unseen spiritual reality we are asked to believe by faith – that God is real, and is all-powerful, and is in control of everything, and loves us. God did deliver David from his enemies. But what if God doesn't deliver us from our enemies, and death awaits us. "What can mere men do to me?" We believe and patiently await the return of Jesus, the firstborn of the resurrection, to bring us to eternal life!