

November 26th Readings

[2 KINGS 13:1-14:29](#)

[ACTS 18:23-19:12](#)

[PSALM 146:1-10](#)

[PROVERBS 18:2-3](#)

In Acts 18:24-28 we read the story of Apollos and Priscilla and Aquila. Apollos is described as a Jew that was very learned and had a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. He even was instructed in the way of the Lord and taught about Jesus accurately, except he knew only the baptism of John. We are told Priscilla and Aquila invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately. The Bible says after this that Apollos was a great help to the church and was welcomed by the disciples. If Apollos had been more like some today and refused to accept correction or criticism, just imagine what a detriment that would have been to the church and the cause of Christ. I'm sure Apollos helped bring countless souls to the Lord and was a tireless worker for Jesus. Let us pray that there will be more Apolloses today who love the Lord and are willing to change when they are lovingly shown the error of their way through scripture, even if that someone is you or me.

November 27th Readings

[2 KINGS 15:1-16:20](#)

[ACTS 19:13-41](#)

[PSALM 147:1-20](#)

[PROVERBS 18:4-5](#)

In Acts 19:23-41 we read about the account of Demetrius of Ephesus. He was a silversmith who made silver shrines of Artemis. The Bible says he brought in no little business for the craftsman there. He and his trade felt threatened by Paul because Paul taught man-made gods are no gods at all. Demetrius and those like him were more interested in making money and the honor of a false god than they were in listening to Paul and hearing about Jesus. How sad that today, there are still those that would choose profits or pleasures over pleasing the

true and living God. Sadly, some young adults choose to sow their wild oats and forget about the church once they get out on their own. They tell themselves someday later, when I'm older, I'll start going to church again. What those young adults starting out on their own should do is listen to the advice Paul gives Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:12 "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity."

November 28th Readings

[2 KINGS 17:1-18:12](#)

[ACTS 20:1-38](#)

[PSALM 148:1-14](#)

[PROVERBS 18:6-7](#)

In Acts 20:7 we have a reference to the Lord's Supper. It would do us good to spend a moment reflecting and contemplating the significance of the Lord's Supper. In 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, the Bible describes the Lord's Supper as a communion or participation with the Lord. When we partake of the bread and fruit of the vine, we are taking part in and taking a stand for Jesus. However, the Lord's Supper is also a memorial. Paul, in 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, tells us when we partake of the Lord's Supper, we do it in remembrance of Jesus and His sacrifice for us. As humans we are forgetful, but by participating in communion each Sunday we are reminded weekly what Jesus has done for us. How He took our sins to the cross and through the shedding of His blood, we can have our sins forgiven. So then, the next time we partake in the Lord's Supper, let us heed the warning in 1 Corinthians 11:27-29 and take it in a worthy manner realizing when we take it we are in communion with the Lord and remember how great Jesus' sacrifice for us truly is.

November 29th Readings

[2 KINGS 18:13-19:37](#)

[ACTS 21:1-17](#)

[PSALM 149:1-9](#)

[PROVERBS 18:8](#)

There is much wisdom we can gain from studying the book of Proverbs. Proverbs 18:8 is no exception. Let us take a closer look at this verse and see what God has to say about gossiping and our speech. The first half of verse 8 tells us that the words of a gossip are like choice morsels. In other words, they are pleasant to the ears, they are desirable. Sometimes it is tempting to spread gossip about others, especially when it is someone who may have wronged you. However, the second half of verse 8 gives us a warning about gossip, it says gossip goes down to a man's inmost parts. It corrupts us from the inside, it goes down to the very core of a man. Much like an apple that is rotten all the way through, so do the words of a gossip go into the inmost parts of a man and corrupt him. We should learn the lesson Proverbs 18:8 is trying to teach us and instead speak as the oracles of God (1 Peter 4:11) and have our speech be always with grace (Colossians 4:6).

November 30th Readings

[2 KINGS 20:1-22:2](#)

[ACTS 21:18-36](#)

[PSALM 150:1-6](#)

[PROVERBS 18:9-10](#)

The name of Jehovah is a strong tower;
The righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

Proverbs 18:10

How true are the words of this verse. This verse is not only true but very comforting to the one who trusts in the Lord. Jehovah truly is strong. While other people in the Old Testament had idols made out of wood or gold, Jehovah is described as a rock and a fortress (Psalm 18:2).

Those false gods could be knocked over and broken or burned, but not so with Jehovah. This verse describes Jehovah as a strong tower that people could run to for safety. During a fierce battle, how comforting would it be to know that there was a place we could go for safety. Jehovah is that place, that strong tower. Notice what the verse says though, it is only the righteous that run into it for safety. Let us therefore strive to remain faithful and follow the word of the Lord so that when we face our tough battles or temptations, we have a rock, a fortress, a high tower we can run to for safety.

December 1st Readings

[2 KINGS 22:3-23:30](#)

[ACTS 21:37-22:16](#)

[PSALM 1:1-6](#)

[PROVERBS 18:11-12](#)

The first Psalm gives us some great advice on how to be better followers of God. If we want to grow closer to God, we must get further away from sin. The progression of sin in verse one is noteworthy. The man starts off just walking with the wicked. But soon, he has stopped walking and is seen standing with sinners. Finally the man is sitting with the scoffers. He progressively gets more and more comfortable with sin. His final state implies he is participating with them in their sin. The psalmist, though, says blessed is the man that does not do those things. The warning in 1 Corinthians 15:33 applies to the situation here in Psalm 1 where it says "Evil companionships corrupt good morals." We should ever be on guard to make sure we are not getting so comfortable around sin that one day we will look up and realize we are sitting with the scoffers. To prevent this from happening, we should take the advice from Psalm 1:2 that says our delight should be in the law of Jehovah and on his law should we meditate day and night.

December 2nd Readings

[2 KINGS 23:31-25:30](#)

[ACTS 22:17-23:10](#)

[PSALM 2:1-12](#)

[PROVERBS 18:13](#)

He who answers before listening –
that is his folly and his shame.

Proverbs 18:13

Proverbs 18:13 is very practical and simple in its wisdom. The situation this verse describes is probably something almost everyone on Earth has run into at some point in their life. Even though not interrupting is something taught to children at a very young age, there are plenty of adults who still do this. Other words for folly and shame are weakness and embarrassment or humiliation. If answering before listening brings folly and shame, then the opposite of this should be true as well. Waiting to hear someone out and then answering shows strength and wisdom. James, another very practical book, sometimes called the “Gospel of common sense”, has some things to say about this topic as well. James 1:19 gives us this advice, “Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.” Also, James chapter 3 deals a lot with the topic of taming the tongue and being careful with our speech. Let us heed the wisdom of God from this verse and in so doing avoid unnecessary folly and shame.