

JUNE 1

Read Job 12–14

CHAPTER 12

AND Job answered and said,
2 No doubt but ye *are* the people, and wisdom shall die with you.

3 But I have understanding as well as you; I *am* not inferior to you: yea, who knoweth not such things as these?

4 I am *as* one mocked of his neighbour, who calleth upon God, and he answereth him: the just upright *man is* laughed to scorn.

5 He that is ready to slip with *his feet is as* a lamp despised in the thought of him that is at ease.

6. The tabernacles of robbers prosper, and they that provoke God are secure; into whose hand God bringeth *abundantly*.

7 But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee:

8 Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee: and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee.

9 Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this?

10 In whose hand *is* the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind.

11 Doth not the ear try words? and the mouth taste his meat?

12. With the ancient *is* wisdom; and in length of days understanding.

13 With him *is* wisdom and strength, he hath counsel and understanding.

14 Behold, he breaketh down, and it cannot be built again: he shutteth up a man, and there can be no opening.

15 Behold, he withholdeth the waters, and they dry up: also he sendeth them out, and they overturn the earth.

16 With him *is* strength and wisdom: the deceived and the deceiver *are* his.

17 He leadeth counsellors away spoiled, and maketh the judges fools.

18 He looseth the bond of kings, and girdeth their loins with a girdle.

19 He leadeth princes away

spoiled, and overthroweth the mighty.

20 He removeth away the speech of the trusty, and taketh away the understanding of the aged.

21 He poureth contempt upon princes, and weakeneth the strength of the mighty.

22 He discovereth deep things out of darkness, and bringeth out to light the shadow of death.

23 He increaseth the nations, and destroyeth them: he enlargeth the nations, and straiteneth them *again*.

24 He taketh away the heart of the chief of the people of the earth, and causeth them to wander in a wilderness *where there is no way*.

25 They grope in the dark without light, and he maketh them to stagger like *a drunken man*.

CHAPTER 13

LO, mine eye hath seen all *this*, mine ear hath heard and understood it.

2 What ye know, *the same* do I know also: I *am* not inferior unto you.

3 Surely I would speak to the Almighty, and I desire to reason with God.

4 But ye *are* forgers of lies, ye *are* all physicians of no value.

5 O that ye would altogether hold your peace! and it should be your wisdom.

6 Hear now my reasoning, and hearken to the pleadings of my lips.

7 Will ye speak wickedly for God? and talk deceitfully for him?

8 Will ye accept his person? will ye contend for God?

9 Is it good that he should search you out? or as one man mocketh another, do ye *so* mock him?

10 He will surely reprove you, if ye do secretly accept persons.

11 Shall not his excellency make you afraid? and his dread fall upon you?

12 Your remembrances *are* like unto ashes, your bodies to bodies of clay.

13. Hold your peace, let me alone, that I may speak, and let come on me what *will*.

14 Wherefore do I take my flesh in my teeth, and put my life in mine hand?

15 Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.

16 He also *shall be* my salvation: for an hypocrite shall not come before him.

17 Hear diligently my speech, and my declaration with your ears.

18 Behold now, I have ordered *my* cause; I know that I shall be justified.

19 Who *is* he *that* will plead with me? for now, if I hold my tongue, I shall give up the ghost.

20 Only do not two *things* unto me: then will I not hide myself from thee.

21 Withdraw thine hand far from me: and let not thy dread make me afraid.

22 Then call thou, and I will answer: or let me speak, and answer thou me.

23. How many *are* mine iniquities and sins? make me to know my transgression and my sin.

24 Wherefore hidest thou thy face, and holdest me for thine enemy?

25 Wilt thou break a leaf driven to and fro? and wilt thou pursue the dry stubble?

26 For thou writest bitter things against me, and makest me to possess the iniquities of my youth.

27 Thou puttest my feet also in the stocks, and lookest narrowly unto all my paths; thou settest a print upon the heels of my feet.

28 And he, as a rotten thing, consumeth, as a garment that is moth eaten.

CHAPTER 14

MAN *that is* born of a woman *is* of few days, and full of trouble.

2 He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not.

3 And dost thou open thine eyes upon such an one, and bringest me into judgment with thee?

4 Who can bring a clean *thing* out of an unclean? not one.

5 Seeing his days *are* determined, the number of his months *are* with thee, thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass;

6 Turn from him, that he may rest, till he shall accomplish, as an hireling, his day.

7. For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease.

8 Though the root thereof wax old in the earth, and the stock thereof die in the ground;

9 *Yet* through the scent of water it will bud, and bring forth boughs like a plant.

10 But man dieth, and wasteth away: yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where *is* he?

11 As the waters fail from the sea, and the flood decayeth and drieth up:

12 So man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens *be* no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep.

13 O that thou wouldest hide me in the grave, that thou wouldest keep me secret, until thy wrath be past, that thou wouldest appoint me a set time, and remember me!

14 If a man die, shall he live *again*? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.

15 Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee: thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands.

16. For now thou numberest my steps: dost thou not watch over my sin?

17 My transgression *is* sealed up

in a bag, and thou sewest up mine iniquity.

18 And surely the mountain falling cometh to nought, and the rock is removed out of his place.

19 The waters wear the stones. thou washest away the things which grow *out* of the dust of the earth; and thou destroyest the hope of man.

20 Thou prevailest for ever against him, and he passeth: thou changest his countenance, and sendest him away.

21 His sons come to honour, and he knoweth *it* not; and they are brought low, but he perceiveth *it* not of them.

22 But his flesh upon him shall have pain, and his soul within him shall mourn.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Yesterday's reading contained Zophar's first speech to Job. In it he greatly rebuked Job and exhorted him to repent so that he might be restored and blessed.

In Job's answer to Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar (chapter 12), he grows sarcastic at their cutting words. In chapter 13 he denounces his so-called "friends" and appeals to God. It is evident from these verses that Job does know the Lord and recognizes that in Him he could find strength and wisdom.

In chapter 14 Job asks the question, "If a man die, shall he live again?" The answer can be found in John's Gospel, often called "the Gospel in a nutshell." Chapter 3:16 tells us, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." It is appointed unto men once to die (Hebrews 9:27). But life does not end there. The

physical body will return to the dust; but there is a soul within every human being that will spend eternity either in heaven or in hell. Jesus died on the cross for you and for me. He was buried and rose again on the third day. If we will but simply have faith in Him and accept Him as our personal Lord and Saviour we will spend eternity in heaven with Him. But for those who never receive Christ as their personal Saviour, they shall spend eternity in hell, separated from God forever. Yes—man shall live again—by simply trusting the all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins, Jesus Christ, God's only Son.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Envy thou not the oppressor, and choose none of his ways" (Proverbs 3:31).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 18: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 7.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

PATRICIA THORNTON

HYMN FOR TODAY

CHRIST RECEIVETH SINFUL MEN

by **Erdmann Neumeister, 1671-1756**

Translated by **Emma F. Bevan, 1827-1909**

Did Christ o'er sinners weep, and shall our cheeks be dry?

Let floods of penitential grief burst forth from every eye.

— John Newton

The thrilling news of the gospel is that Jesus welcomes the nobodies of life and transforms them into somebodies. The pages of church history are filled with examples of people whose lives have been dramatically changed from vile sinners to spiritual saints.

Divine love is never forced on anyone. God created man with a free will, free even to reject Christ's provision for salvation. Our heavenly Father does not want to send to hell people who reject His Son—it is a place that was originally intended for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41). It cost God the cross and death of Jesus before He could forgive our sin and still remain a holy God. Although costly to God, salvation is a free gift to all who will receive it.

“Christ Receiveth Sinful Men” was originally written in 1718 by a Lutheran minister, Erdmann Neumeister, pastor of a church in Hamburg, Germany, for 41 years. He became widely known as an eloquent, forceful preacher as well as the author of approximately 650 hymns. More than a century later, an English lady hymnist, Emma Frances Bevan, translated this and a number of other German texts into the English language. Still today, this hymn reminds us clearly that Christ welcomes any repentant sinner who responds to His gracious invitation for forgiveness and a new life.

*Sinners Jesus will receive!
Sound this word of grace to all
Who the heav'nly pathway leave,
All who linger, all who fall.*

*Come, and He will give you rest;
Trust Him for His word is plain;
He will take the sinfulest;
Christ receiveth sinful men.*

*Now my heart condemns me not;
pure before the law I stand;*

*He who cleansed me from all spot
Satisfied its last demand.*

*Christ receiveth sinful men,
Even me with all my sin;
Purged from ev'ry spot and stain,
Heav'n with Him I enter in.*

*Chorus:
Sing it o'er and o'er again:
Christ receiveth sinful men;
Make the message clear and plain:
Christ receiveth sinful men.*

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

951 B.C.

THE REVIVAL STARTED UNDER ASA.

II Chronicles 15:10.

Pray for revival today.

726 B.C.

HEZEKIAH'S REVIVAL BEGAN.

II Chronicles 31:7.

Read this passage and the context. Pray for revival.

588 B.C.

THE WORD OF GOD CAME TO EZEKIEL.

Ezekiel 31:1.

Pray for the Word of God to come to our preachers and leaders today.

1 B.C.

ISRAEL FINALLY ARRIVED AT MOUNT SINAI.

Exodus 19:1.

1792

KENTUCKY WAS ADMITTED TO THE UNION.

I have met many fine people who were born and reared in the great state of Kentucky. They are among the most delightful people I know. Let us pray for God's people in this great state.

1796

TENNESSEE WAS ADMITTED TO THE UNION.

Pray for the saints in Tennessee. Pray for God to bless their ministry for Jesus Christ.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1843

SOJOURNER TRUTH LEFT NEW YORK AND

BEGAN HER CAREER AS AN ANTISLAVERY ACTIVIST, TRAVELING AS AN ABOLITIONIST SPEAKER.

**1835
SIXTH NATIONAL BLACK CONVENTION MET IN PHILADELPHIA WITH THIRTY-FIVE DELEGATES FROM SIX STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.**

**1862
SLAVERY ABOLISHED IN ALL U.S. POSSESSIONS.**

**1864
SOLOMON GEORGE WASHINGTON DILL, POOR WHITE ALLY OF BLACK REPUBLICANS, ASSASSINATED IN HIS HOME BY WHITE TERRORISTS.**

Dill had allegedly made “incendiary speeches” to South Carolina blacks.

**1864
FLORIDA GENERAL ASSEMBLY (NINETEEN BLACKS, FIFTY-SEVEN WHITES) MET IN TALLAHASSEE.**

**1868
TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION (NINE BLACKS, EIGHTY-ONE WHITES) MET IN AUSTIN.**

**1921
RACE RIOT, TULSA, OKLAHOMA.**
Twenty-one whites and sixty blacks were killed.

**1966
APPROXIMATELY 2,400 PERSONS ATTENDED WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CIVIL RIGHTS.**

The Treasure Path to Soul Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

DIFFICULT PROBLEMS SOLVED: "I HAVE A FEAR OF RIDICULE"

(Assignment 18)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for the next seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning," page xiii near the front of this book.)

() Proverbs 29:25

The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.

() Mark 8:38

Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

() Revelation 21:8

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

() Luke 12:4

And I say unto you my friends; Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.

() Luke 12:5

But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.