

CHAPTER 14

AND it came to pass, as he went into the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat bread on the sabbath day, that they watched him.

2 And, behold, there was a certain man before him which had the dropsy.

3 And Jesus answering spake unto the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath day?

4 And they held their peace. And he took *him*, and healed him, and let him go;

5 And answered them, saying, Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a pit, and will not straightway pull him out on the sabbath day?

6 And they could not answer him again to these things.

7 ¶ And he put forth a parable to those which were bidden, when he marked how they chose out the chief rooms; saying unto them,

8 When thou art bidden of any *man* to a wedding, sit not down in

the highest room; lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him;

9 And he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room.

10 But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee.

11 For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

12 ¶ Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor *thy* rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee.

13 But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind:

14 And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for

thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.

15 ¶ And when one of them that sat at meat with him heard these things, he said unto him, Blessed is he that shall eat bread in the kingdom of God.

16 Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many:

17 And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready.

18 And they all with one *consent* began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused.

19 And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused.

20 And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.

21 So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.

22 And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.

23 And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled.

24 For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.

25 ¶ And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them,

26 If any *man* come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

27 And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have *sufficient* to finish *it*?

29 Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish *it*, all that behold *it* begin to mock him,

30 Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.

31 Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?

32 Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace.

33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

34 ¶ Salt *is* good: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned?

35 It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; *but* men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

CHAPTER 15

THEN drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him.

2 And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.

3 ¶ And he spake this parable unto them, saying,

4 What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after

that which is lost, until he find it?

5 And when he hath found *it*, he layeth *it* on his shoulders, rejoicing.

6 And when he cometh home, he calleth together *his* friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.

7 I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

8 ¶ Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find *it*?

9 And when she hath found *it*, she calleth *her* friends and *her* neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.

10 Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

11 ¶ And he said, A certain man had two sons:

12 And the younger of them said to *his* father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth *to me*. And he divided unto them *his* living.

13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

21 And the son said unto him,

Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put *it* on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on *his* feet:

23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill *it*; and let us eat, and be merry:

24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

25 Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing.

26 And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant.

27 And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound.

28 And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.

29 And he answering said to *his* father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid,

that I might make merry with my friends:

30 But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.

31 And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.

32 It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

CHAPTER 16

AND he said also unto his disciples, There was a certain rich man, which had a steward; and the same was accused unto him that he had wasted his goods.

2 And he called him, and said unto him, How is it that I hear this of thee? give an account of thy stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer steward.

3 Then the steward said within himself, What shall I do? for my lord taketh away from me the stewardship: I cannot dig; to beg I am ashamed.

4 I am resolved what to do, that, when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses.

5 So he called every one of his

lord's debtors *unto him*, and said unto the first, How much owest thou unto my lord?

6 And he said, An hundred measures of oil. And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and sit down quickly, and write fifty.

7 Then said he to another, And how much owest thou? And he said, An hundred measures of wheat. And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and write fourscore.

8 And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light.

9 And I say unto you, Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations.

10 He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

11 If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true *riches*?

12 And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?

13 ¶ No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

14 And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided him.

15 And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

16 The law and the prophets *were* until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

17 And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail.

18 Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from *her* husband committeth adultery.

19 ¶ There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

20 And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,

21 And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

24 And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

26 And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that *would come* from thence.

27 Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:

28 For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.

29 Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.

31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

In chapter 14:26 Jesus says, "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple." These are stern words by Jesus; but following Him is far more serious than most people realize. Jesus did not mean that we should not have a faithful devotion to those who are our own flesh and blood. We are taught throughout the Scriptures that we should not only love our family and friends, but also enemies. Jesus simply means that we should love Him more than anyone or anything else. He requires, and must have, first place in our hearts. Satan will make every effort to prevent our giving Christ first place, and will present many temptations to hinder our way. But Satan will flee from us when we submit ourselves to God (see James 4:7).

My prayer today is that Jesus has first place in your heart, and that you love Him more than anything or anyone. If you have failed Him in this area, ask His forgiveness, and determine that you will give Him first place and complete control of your life from this day forward.

In chapter 15 the Lord answers the hypocritical complaining and murmuring of the Pharisees with the parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son. With these parables Jesus is illustrating Luke 19:10, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." In these parables the one lost sheep, the one lost piece of silver, and the prodigal represented the publicans. In Jesus' day the publican was commonly known to be a sinner, with no religion at all. Jesus was also rebuking the self-righteousness of the Pharisees, teaching them that they must humble themselves to a place of realizing they are sinners before they could be saved.

Chapter 16 contains the familiar story of the rich man and Lazarus. This is not a parable, but an actual

historical illustration, also aimed at the unbelieving self-righteous Pharisees. In it the rich man's great wealth was not the evidence of divine favor, for he went to hell (Hades, Sheol, the intermediate abode of departed human spirits between death and the resurrection). Lazarus, a penniless beggar, went to "Abraham's bosom," which is a picture of paradise (the intermediate state in which souls of the just await resurrection). With this illustration Jesus was warning of eternal hell, but promising eternal heaven to those who receive Him by faith. He was also illustrating that material possessions mean nothing when death comes, and He was warning the covetous Pharisees to take heed and turn to Him, in faith believing.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop: but a good word maketh it glad" (Proverbs 12:25).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 34: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 10.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1636

THE FOUNDING DATE OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

Someone has said, "As go the schools, so goes the nation." Certainly this is true. The kind of doctors we have tomorrow will be determined by the kind of medical schools we have today. The kind of teachers we have tomorrow will be determined by the kind of teacher-training institutions we have today. The kind of preachers we have tomorrow will be determined by the kind of seminaries and Bible colleges and Bible institutes we have today. Did you ever stop to think that the hotbed of rioting, demonstrations, etc. is the university? Have you noticed how that many of our universities have become centers of Communistic

activity? Let us pause to pray today for God to bless the educational system of America.

1886

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY WAS UNVEILED.

I have stood near the Statue of Liberty in New York City with patriotism filling my soul. I thought time and time again concerning that Statue of Liberty and the liberty it represents. Today people talk about security. We ought to talk more about liberty. If I had my choice today between security and liberty, I'd gladly give up security that I might have liberty. The average person votes today, I'm afraid, on what it will mean to him, his salary, his home, his garage, his car, his plate, etc. Then a thousand times more than what kind of food we eat or clothes we wear or cars we drive or houses we live in, we ought to want freedom. Freedom ought to be the great need and desire. I hear people say, "I'd rather be *Red* than *dead*." Not me, dear friends. I'd rather be *dead* than *Red*! Let us say with the great man of old, "Give me liberty or give me death." That kind of spirit can stem the tide of socialism and Communism that is sweeping across America. The average person has the idea that if the government can give him a handout, and if the government will send him a check every month, that's all he wants. Oh, my precious friend, let's have our liberty and make that the big thing.

1914

THE BIRTHDAY OF DR. JONAS SALK.

Jonas Salk was the man who discovered the famous Salk vaccine for polio. Since the Salk vaccine for polio, there have come the other vaccines, and polio is just a minor problem, if any, in our land today. As recent as twenty-five years ago polio was one of the most dreaded diseases America faced. Thousands and thousands of cases swept the state of Texas during the great polio epidemics of the 1950s. Little children in Sunday School and church would come down with polio and be taken away to isolation wards. Fear and dread swept the entire church family and the entire city and state because of this awful epidemic. Let us thank God today with sincere hearts for this discovery and for this aid to the health of our children and yea, our nation.

**ON THIS DATE IN
AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY**

1862

First Kansas Colored Volunteers repulsed and drove off superior force of rebels at Island Mound, Missouri. This was the first engagement for black troops.

1914

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, founded at Howard University, incorporated.

1981

Edward M. McIntrye elected first black mayor of Augusta, Georgia.

The Story of the Psalms

PSALMS 109

AUTHOR: David

THE STORY BEHIND THE PSALM:

Ahithophel had been David's best friend, and in David's darkest hour, Ahithophel forsook him. Because of this, he is often called the Judas Iscariot of David's life. As Judas walked with Jesus during His earthly life, so did Ahithophel walk with David. As Judas claimed to be one of Jesus' closest friends, so Ahithophel claimed to be David's closest friend. As Judas sat with Jesus at the table, time and time again so did Ahithophel sit with David in like times.

We know this Psalm refers to Judas, for Peter quoted this Psalm. It is called by some the most mysterious of the Psalms and it is by far the most harsh in its words.

THE WAY IT WAS USED BY GOD'S PEOPLE:

You will notice it is "To the chief musician." This means it was intended to be sung and especially to be sung in the temple service. The chief musician was given permission to set it to music and to use it in the highest of services.

Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION:

Divine inspiration evident in that the scriptures correct those who are trapped in error.

A. THE ERROR OF BEING SAVED BY LIVING A RIGHTEOUS LIFE

(Assignment 34)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for 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” link back on the DailyKJV page.)

() Matthew 5:20

For I say unto you, that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

() Luke 16:15

And he said unto them, yet are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

() Galatians 3:10

For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

() Ephesians 2:8

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

() Ephesians 2:9

Not of works, lest any man should boast.