

At the start of the Reformation of the Church in Scotland in 1557, John Knox wrote to his congregation before going into exile and said,

“You are bishops and kings; your wife, children, servants, and family are your bishopric and charge. Of you it shall be required how carefully and diligently you have instructed them in God’s true knowledge . . .

And therefore I say, you must make them partakers in, exhorting, and in making common prayers, which I would in every house were used once a day at least.”

Let’s Worship God

2nd-7th December 2013
Deuteronomy



Let's Worship God is a ministry of



Airdrie Reformed Presbyterian Church

airdrierpcs.org, 01236 620107
Part of the RFCS - rpcscotland.org

Family worship, a joy to be experienced every day!



Mon.
2nd Dec.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

I call heaven and earth
to witness against you today,
that I have set before you
life and death,
blessing and curse.
Deuteronomy 30:19a

reading Deuteronomy 31:1-6 - A New Leader

notes In covenant documents like Deuteronomy, of special importance is the subject of the royal succession. This succession is provided for by the appointment and commissioning of Joshua as dynastic heir to Moses in the office of mediatorial representative of Jehovah (Deut 31). Deut 33 makes plain that all of God's people are royal heirs. Included also are two other standard elements in covenant documents. One is the invocation of covenant witnesses (Deut 32) and the other is the directions for the disposition of the treaty document after the ceremony (Deut 31:9-13). By way of notarising the document, an account of the death of Moses is affixed to the end in Deut 34.

As he approaches the conclusion of his speech and his ministry among the people, Moses tells them that the end is in sight for him. But the God who redeemed them will never leave them or forsake them; He will take them into the Promised Land.

What a comfort it also is to know that though we lose loved ones on earth, the everlasting God is always with us. There is no decay or death in Him. Note the twofold assurance in 3, 'The Lord will go before thee'. In anything they may encounter, the Lord will already have been there, to deal with it, and prepare the way. But also He Himself would be their leader. Moses had not been the leader of Israel, but the under-leader, and Joshua was now to take his place as under-leader. This is the source of their courage. For us too, we keep 'looking unto Jesus'.

- questions**
1. Who is appointed as the next leader?
 2. What does God promise these people?

- praise pray**
- Ps. 105:1-6
1. Give thanks that God is always with us.
 2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
 - 3 Pray for family matters.



Sat.
7th Dec.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

I call heaven and earth
to witness against you today,
that I have set before you
life and death,
blessing and curse.
Deuteronomy 30:19a

reading Deuteronomy 31:28-32:14 - The Goodness of God

notes Moses has composed his song and gathers the leaders of Israel in order to commit this song to them. This song is to be transmitted to the coming generations. But it is also a song of witness (v28).

The song itself begins with an invocation of Jehovah as Israel's God (v1-4), before proceeding to warn Israel against rebellion against this God (v5-6). Verses 7-14 recollect God's favour towards His people. He found them in a desert land, in a waste howling wilderness. He took them and led them, bearing them on her wings. He caused them to increase, flourish and prosper.

What a picture of the Christian and the Church also! We were insignificant creatures, mired in sin. Without God and without hope in the world. It was His love that found us. He chose us, and He chose to set His love upon us. We deserved nothing but death. But he led and bore us. Our age was renewed as that of the eagle. We increased, flourished and prospered under His benediction.

And how is all this possible? By the cross of Jesus Christ. The Son of God paid the price for our sin, and it is in Him that we experience the blessing and favour of God.

- questions**
1. What had God done for Israel?
 2. What does God do for you and the church?

- praise pray**
- Ps. 106:1-6
1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
 2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
 - 3 Pray for family matters.



Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
I call heaven and earth
to witness against you today,
that I have set before you
life and death,
blessing and curse.
Deuteronomy 30:19a

reading Deuteronomy 31:24-27 - A Witness

notes In verse 23, Joshua is encouraged and charged with the work of conquest. In verses 24-27, we are told that the written words of Moses are given to the Levites in order to be kept in the ark of the covenant. And this book was to be a witness against Israel in her sin.

As Christians, we have a high view of the Bible. It is the Book of the Covenant, where God reveals Himself to us and sets before us the boundaries of life and well-being. But it is also a Book of Witness, reminding us of God's covenant promises, of blessings and curses. And when we fall and experience the consequences of our sins, the Bible bears witness to truth.

No movement of renewal that is short on the teaching of the Word can ever hope to do much to recover the lost glories of the Church. Where the Word - as distinct from the liturgical and the sacramental - does not have central and prior place, all is in vain.

questions

1. Where was the law to be kept and why?
2. What does the Bible remind us of?

praise pray Ps. 105:25-31

1. Pray that you would be obedient to God.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
I call heaven and earth
to witness against you today,
that I have set before you
life and death,
blessing and curse.
Deuteronomy 30:19a

reading Deuteronomy 31:7-13 - Reading the Law

notes In verses 7-8, Moses encourages Joshua, the man who is to be Moses' successor. In verses 9-13, Moses sets this law in writing and delivers it to the priests and elders of Israel. They are instructed to read this law before the children of Israel at least once every seven years at the Feast of the Tabernacles. This hearing of the Word of God was to cause them to learn and to fear the Lord and to serve Him. Men, women, children, and migrants were to be included in these occasions of covenant renewal.

This septennial reading of the law to Israel was not intended to be the sole means of teaching the people their covenantal obligations. But it was an especially impressive reminder, at this time of sabbatical renewal and consummation, of the need for an ever fresh self-consecration by the servants of the Lord if they would enjoy the consummation of the covenant's beatitude.

What a reminder this is for the Christian Church. When we come into the house of God for worship, we hear the Word of God. God has ordained this provision in order to teach us; that we may learn to truly love Him with all our hearts, our souls and our minds and to serve Him only. Let us also notice that God expects our children to be part of the Church's worship.

questions

1. When were they to read the law?
2. What are the benefits of hearing the Word of God?

praise pray Ps. 105:7-12

1. Give thanks for Christ's death and resurrection.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters. .



Wed.
4th Dec.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
I call heaven and earth
to witness against you today,
that I have set before you
life and death,
blessing and curse.
Deuteronomy 30:19a

reading Deuteronomy 31:14-19 - A Grim Future

notes In this section, God calls Moses and Joshua into His presence in order to induct Joshua to the work of leading Israel and for God to give final instructions to Moses before his death.

God's words to Moses are seemingly grim. It is predicted that after they enter the Promised Land, the children of Israel will become spiritually complacent. They will rebel against Jehovah their God, and He will hide His face from them and give them into the hands of their enemies. Moses' prophetic song would remind them of the height from which they had fallen. Notice that there is nothing fatalistic or deterministic in this prophecy. Israel was not doomed to be unfaithful. The choice was always Israel's own (see Deut 30:19). Under Joshua's leadership, the decline was prevented from taking place; and succeeding generations could have prevented it also, had they had a mind to!

From verse 17 we see that without God's protection, the nation would fall victim to many evils and in this way made aware aware that God was not among them. Lest the Israelites should then recall the divine promise not to forsake them (cf. v6) and perversely impute unrighteousness to the Almighty, God appointed for them the Song of Witness of verse 19 which would place the promised blessings and the threatened curse in their proper perspective within the covenant.

questions

1. What does God say is going to happen?
2. How would the nation know that God was not with them?

praise pray Ps. 105:13-18

1. Pray that you would seek the Lord with your whole heart.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Thur.
5th Dec.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
I call heaven and earth
to witness against you today,
that I have set before you
life and death,
blessing and curse.
Deuteronomy 30:19a

reading Deuteronomy 31:19-27 - The Word

notes Moses writes the words that God has spoken to him, and commits them into priestly hands. This scroll is to be kept by the side of the ark of the covenant of Jehovah.

As Christians, we believe that the Bible was written by human hands. Here, it was Moses who wrote the book of Deuteronomy. But the ultimate Author of the Bible is God (V19). All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and holy men wrote as they were borne along by the Spirit of God.

We see also that the Bible is a holy book because its origin is in the Holy God. But it is holy also because its content is holy; its purpose is to teach humankind the will of God. This is why it is called the "book of the law"; it contains the teaching of Almighty God. Thirdly, it is holy because it is committed to priests set apart for God and put in the holy place that is the Ark of the Covenant.

Notice that the Bible is a holy book, but it is also a living word. It bears witness to God's righteousness (v19) and against human sinfulness (v26). Convicted of God's holiness and our fallenness, the written word is intended to drive us to the Living Word, Jesus Christ.

questions

1. Who is the ultimate Author of the Bible?
2. Why do we call the Bible holy ?

praise pray Ps. 105:19-24

1. Give thanks for God s Word.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.