

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

23rd-28th December 2013
Deuteronomy



Let's Worship God is a ministry of



Airdrie Reformed Presbyterian Church

airdrierpcs.org, 01236 620107
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Family worship, a joy to be experienced every day!



Mon.
23rd Dec.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

That you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.
Deuteronomy 30:20b

reading Deuteronomy 33:26-29 - Our Help

notes This God rides on the heavens for our help - and He will let nothing stand in His way. The God of the storm-clouds, thunder and lightning is a God Who is incredibly gentle and tender with His own. What comfort and assurance have the words 'underneath are the everlasting arms' brought to countless hard-pressed saints!

It is unfortunate that the words which follow have not been given the same prominence in our thinking, for in fact they invest the comfort of God with the best kind of value: this God 'shall thrust out the enemy from before thee'. Not only comfort, but victory is in view! Are we having trouble with the enemy today? Let us claim this promise, then, get into our refuge, be conscious of the everlasting arms, and listen. And He shall say, 'Destroy them'. And Israel shall then dwell in safety alone, free from the attentions of the evil one. Well might the patriarch exclaim - and how wonderful that these should be the last words he uttered on earth - 'Happy art thou, O Israel: who is like unto thee, O people saved by the Lord!'

questions

1. What do these words tell us about God?
2. What comfort can we take from this passage?

praise pray Ps. 108:7-11

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



Sat.
28th Dec.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

That you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.
Deuteronomy 30:20b

reading Deuteronomy 29:29 - The Living Word

notes Deuteronomy is undoubtedly one of the greatest books of the Old Testament, whose influence on the domestic and personal religion of all ages has hardly been surpassed by any other book. It is quoted over eighty times in the New Testament and thus belongs to a small group of four Old Testament books to which the early Church made frequent reference, the others being Genesis, Psalms and Isaiah. The Lord Jesus Christ Himself frequently quoted from Deuteronomy.

We thank God for the privilege and joy of studying its pages. But let us not forget; these words are not given merely to feed our minds or stimulate our thinking. No, they were given so that we may obey the voice of the Living God. May the message of Deuteronomy continue to shape our thinking and mould our lives until our feet are found standing upon the shores of the New Jerusalem.

questions

1. How many times is Deuteronomy quoted in the New Testament?
2. How can you apply what you have learned to your life?

praise pray Ps. 110:all

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

That you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.
Deuteronomy 30:20b

reading Deuteronomy 34:9-12 - Joshua

notes According to verse 9, Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him. This means that Joshua had been ordained as the dynastic heir by the bestowal of the charismatic gifts of this dynasty, pre-eminently the gift of governmental wisdom (Deut 31, Num 27:18ff.).

In verse 9 also we see that the children of Israel were true to their oath of obedience to Jehovah's will, sworn in the Deuteronomic ceremony of chapters 26:17 and 29:12. They assented to the accession of Joshua. Though successor to Moses, Joshua was not his equal. It was left to Joshua to discover the will of God through priestly mediation (verse 10 and Num 27:21) although God had spoken to Moses face to face. By the signs of victory over Jordan's waters and Canaan's hosts, Joshua was attested as the successor of Moses.

As Christians we need to recognise that we are not all equally gifted or naturally endowed. Often, our privileges and opportunities vary. But this does not mean that we or our service is any less important before God. All that is expected of us is that each of us is faithful in our own individual callings and in our corporate calling within the Church.

questions

1. How are Moses and Joshua different?
2. What demonstrated that Joshua was the new leader of Israel?

praise pray

Ps. 109:19-24

1. Give thanks for all that God has given you.
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

That you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.
Deuteronomy 30:20b

reading Deuteronomy 34:1-6 - Unchanging Promise

notes In verses 1-4, we read of Moses' final panoramic survey of the Promised Land and the account of his death. God buries Moses, and continues the work that Moses did by raising up a new generation of leadership in Joshua. So it is with all our lives. None of us is indispensable. We remain immortal until our work on earth is done. But once this is over, God buries His people. His purposes continue, and God does His work through other people/ This is testimony to the unchanging faithfulness of God to His promises and to His covenant.

"The Lord shewed him" in verse 1 was not merely an act of divine kindness. It was a legal process. A man 'viewed' what he was to possess. Also, we see in verse 4 that it was a matter of reminding Moses that God's promise to Abraham and the patriarchs was about to be fulfilled. What He promises to us, He always does.

Though not now able to enter the land, Moses beheld its northern mountain peaks, on one of which he, with Elijah, was afterwards to stand, speaking with the Mediator of the New Covenant concerning the exodus He must accomplish at Jerusalem before He might cross over into the heavenly inheritance (see Matt 17:3, Mark 9:4, Luke 9:3-31). It was necessary for Jesus to die before entering His rest because He was the true Mediator who came to reconcile His sinful people unto a Holy God.

questions

1. What promise did God remind Moses of?
2. How is Moses like Christ?

praise pray

Ps. 109:1-6

1. Give thanks for all Christ accomplished on the cross.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Wed.
25th Dec.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

That you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.
Deuteronomy 30:20b

reading Deuteronomy 34:5-7 - Death

notes A testament is of force only after the death of the testator. So the Deuteronomic Covenant in its testamentary aspect would not become operative until the death of Moses. Only then would Joshua succeed to the leadership and only then would the tribes enter into their inheritance in the Promised Land. Hence this record of Moses' death.

But notice the contrast. Unlike Moses, who after his death was succeeded by Joshua (verse 9), Jesus, the messianic Mediator, would succeed Himself after His death because it was not possible that death should hold Him.

According to verse 5, Moses died 'according to the word of the Lord'. This refers back to 32:50, where his death is spoken of as a command from God. At 120 years of age, Moses' eye was not dim, nor his natural face abated. He did not expire of old age but by the command of God who creates and destroys (verse 5). All these details reveal a purposeness about this dying. We usually think of death overtaking us, but death did not so much overtake Moses: he died at God's behest, with all his work accomplished.

questions

1. How did Christ triumph over death?
2. Who is in control of death?

praise pray Ps. 109:7-12

1. Give thanks that Christ has conquered sin and death.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Thur.
26th Dec.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

That you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.
Deuteronomy 30:20b

reading Deuteronomy 34:7-10 - Grief

notes We notice also that Israel spent thirty days mourning the loss of Moses before proceeding to the conquest. Our modern culture is afraid of sadness and tears. Because we no longer know how to handle grief and bereavement, we are scarred by death and we continue to be emotionally fragile. As Christians we need to recover the Bible's healthy teaching on grief and mourning.

In verse 10: 'Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face'. To know God, or rather, to be known of Him, is the fountain-head of all blessing and fruitfulness in spiritual life and service. Paul had the same desire in Phil 3:7ff: 'that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto his death'. This is the law of spiritual harvest; and this was the secret of Moses.

questions

1. How many days did the people mourn Moses?
2. What is our greatest blessing?

praise pray Ps. 109:13-18

1. Pray for those who are mourning the death of a loved one.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.