

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 September 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.
23rd Sept.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

You shall bind them as a sign
on your hand,
and they shall be as frontlets
between your eyes.
Deuteronomy 6:8

reading Deuteronomy 9:1-6 - We Are Unrighteous

notes God through Moses teaches the children of Israel the reason for their blessing. It was not that they were righteous, but that their enemies were unrighteous (verses 4-5). They are left in no doubt that they themselves are a stiff-necked people (verse 6). We are then given a catalogue of Israel's failures. Every sin and disobedience is recounted. But they were not consumed because of Moses their mediator. And they were saved because of God's faithfulness to His covenant. And because the Lord's glory itself was at stake, He heard the prayers of Moses.

As Christians we tend to forget our unrighteousness. This makes us self-righteous. Soon we begin to imagine that we have been saved because we are better than others; and we begin to despise those whom we consider to be less righteous than ourselves. But all our best efforts are as filthy rags before God. By grace we have been saved through faith; this is not of ourselves. The grace is God's.

questions

1. Were the people righteous themselves?
2. Where can we find righteousness?

praise pray

Ps. 86A:7-11

1. Give thanks that our righteousness is in Christ.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Sat.
28th Sept.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

You shall bind them as a sign
on your hand,
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Deuteronomy 6:8

reading Deuteronomy 10:12-22 - Love and Obedience

notes From verse 12 onwards, the appeal to keep the law is made on the ground of grace. They have received everything without meriting it. Their proper response must therefore be that of love to God and obedience to His word and will. Walking in obedience is not irksome. It is only when we do not want to do them that we find them irksome or grievous. To want to do them brings us into a new world, the world of grace.

In verses 12-22, the children of Israel are instructed to keep the two sides of the law: to love God and to love their fellow human beings. The fatherless and widow and stranger are singled-out for God is the Defender of the defenceless. Verse 19 reminds Israel that they too were once refugees in Egypt. As we review our lives and survey the kindness and mercy of the Lord towards us, we shall be propelled with a love towards other people. Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy.

questions

1. What is the response to what God has done for you?
2. How should we treat other people?

praise pray

Ps. 88:1-6

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.



Fri.
27th Sept.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

You shall bind them as a sign
on your hand,
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Deuteronomy 6:8

reading Deuteronomy 10:7-11 - Levites

notes Verses 8-11 tell us that the tribe of Levi were chosen to serve before the Lord in his religious ordinances, and that they did not have a physical inheritance in the land. The people were to share their resources with these ministers, and the Lord Himself was to be the inheritance of the Levites. In the New Testament church too there is this division of labour; some are preachers and teachers and evangelists, and the saints are to share their good things with them.

Verse 7 refers to a land of the rivers of waters. Delitzsch comments: "God generally associates material blessings with spiritual; as long as the ministry of the Word and the observance of divine worship flourish among us, God will also provide for our temporal necessities". This is the secret behind true industrial and economic prowess.

Notice the threefold 'office' of the Levites: they were to bear the ark of the covenant, to stand before the Lord to minister to Him, and to bless the people in His name. The ark was the repository of the tables of stone, and must ever symbolise for us the word of God; 'standing before the Lord' surely signifies prayer; and when the Word and prayer are given their proper place in and by God's servants, they will just as surely bless men in the Lord's name (cf Numb 6:23-27). What we need in the church today is true Ministers who pray before God, study and preach His Word, and communicate God's blessing to His people. In these ways they will bless the people now, but in a much greater way they will yet bless the land in the Lord's name!

questions

1. Who were to share their resources with the Levites?
2. What were the Levites to do?

praise pray Ps. 87:all

1. Pray for our ministers.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Tue.
24th Sept.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

You shall bind them as a sign
on your hand,
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between your eyes.
Deuteronomy 6:8

reading Deuteronomy 9:7-21 - Past Idolatry

notes Verses 8-21 return to Horeb. Moses' absence brought inactivity to Israel and this in turn brought idolatry. It is true that God gives periods of quietness in the life of His people. We must resist the temptation to live on excitement and thrills. Even the disciples of Jesus had to come down from the Mount of Transfiguration. But it is also true that sifting takes place when the excitement subsides. The real test for Christians is in the humdrum, nitty-gritty ordinariness of the spiritual life. And it is at this point that we tend to make our idols. Beware!

Verse 21 refers to Moses' grinding of the golden calf into dust and casting it into the brook. According to Exodus 32, the idol at Sinai was made from the gold that was in the possession of the children of Israel. Astonishingly, it was done at exactly the same time when God was instructing Moses concerning the building of the Tabernacle. This house of God was to be built using the gold that was in the hands of Israel. Thus idolatry was taking the things of God and using it for common and unsanctified purposes.

As Christians, it matters what we do with our time, our talents and our monies. As Jesus reminds us in the parable of the talents, we either use our talents for God, or for the devil. And what of the tremendous resources of love in our hearts? Is this given over to the service of God, or squandered and dissipated on base and worthless things?

questions

1. What is a temptation in times of quietness and inactivity?
2. What were the people supposed to use their gold for?

praise pray Ps. 86B:all

1. Pray that you would use all that God has given you to serve Him.
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
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Deuteronomy 6:8

reading Deuteronomy 9:21-29 - Moses Prayer

notes We see in verses 23 and 24 that unbelief is synonymous with rebellion against God. Faith pleases God because it means that we respect God and His word. Unbelief is the rejection of God's word, and this is tantamount to a subject rebelling against its king. He who comes to God must believe that God exists, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Notice also Moses prayer in verses 25-29. There is seriousness Moses prayed for forty days and forty nights. There is humility and sincerity he fell down before the Lord. And there is the covenant Moses prays for Israel as God's covenant inheritance, and calls God to remember His covenant commitment to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and pleads for the sake of God's glorious Name. Thus grace, not merit or deserving, was the basis of Israel's reprieve. How little do we realise that as we live, continuing in the enjoyment of the blessing and favour of God, we live 'under the Mercy'.

questions

1. Why is unbelief like rebellion?
2. What were the characteristics of Moses prayer?

praise pray Ps. 86C:1-4

1. Give thanks for the mercy 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
You shall bind them as a sign
on your hand,
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Deuteronomy 6:8

reading Deuteronomy 10:1-7 - Forgiveness

notes Verses 1-5 give to us another recollection of the second giving of the Ten Commandments. The writing of God on these tables of stone ought to remind us that God's Law is real, true and permanent.

The context of the previous chapter tells us that these verses give us the the divine response to Moses' intercession, and Israel's own response to the divine initiative. God's response is full of grace. In spite of Israel's great sin, and the seriousness of their rebellion against God, He not only forgave them, but also renewed the covenant with them (1-5). Furthermore, in verses 6, 7, the record of Aaron's death implies that despite leading the people astray, Aaron was appointed high priest and invested with the priesthood. This was proof that Aaron was forgiven and reinstated by God, and that the priesthood was established and confirmed, not only to his son Eleazer, but also to his family, the tribe of Levi (8). Such is the richness of the grace of God!

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! Rom 11:33

questions

1. What should the writing of God's Law on stone remind us of?
2. How did God respond to Moses prayer?

praise pray Ps. 86C:5-9

1. Give thanks that God is a forgiving God.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
- 3 Pray for family matters.