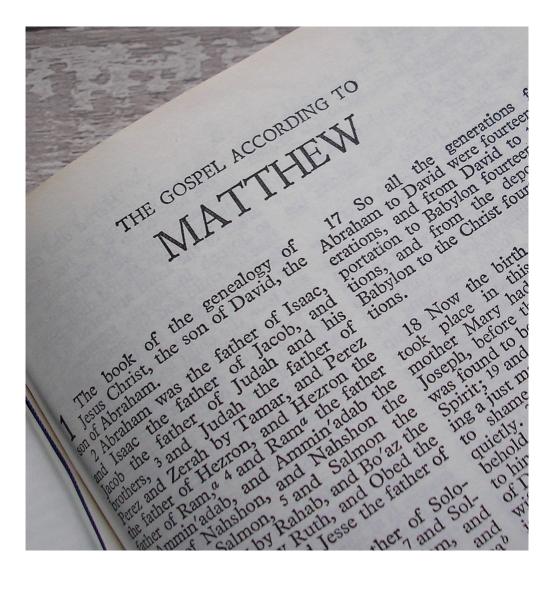
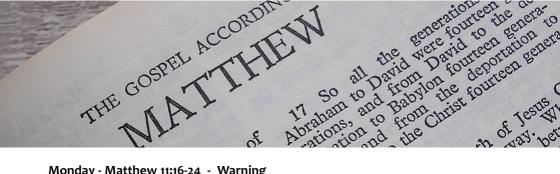
# Let's Worship God

1st-6th August 2022 Matthew





# Monday - Matthew 11:16-24 - Warning

The Jews, in Jesus' time, find fault with every teacher whom God sends among them. First comes John the Baptist, preaching repentance, a man who withdraws himself from society, and lives in the wilderness. Does this satisfy the Jews? No! They find fault and say he has a devil. Then comes Jesus the Son of God, preaching the Gospel, and living as other men live. Does this satisfy the Jews? No! They find fault again, calling Christ a drunkard and a sinner. There are always thousands of people as unreasonable as these Jews. Whatever we teach and preach, they find fault; however we live, they are dissatisfied. We must not expect unconverted men to be satisfied with us. No matter how we live, no matter what we say, they will find something to object to, something that will offend them.

Our Lord declares that it will be more tolerable for Tyre, Sidon, and Sodom on the day of judgement than for the towns where people have heard His sermons, and seen His miracles, but have not repented. These words should make the ears tingle of those who hear the Gospel regularly but ignore it. How great is the guilt of such a man or woman before God! How great is the danger in which he daily stands! Moral, and decent, and respectable as his life may be, he is actually more guilty than an idol worshipper of Tyre or a miserable inhabitant of Sodom. They heard no Gospel; he hears but does not obey. Their hearts might have been softened if they had enjoyed his privileges. His heart remains hard and unmoved. It is never enough to just hear the Gospel; we must repent and believe. We must lay hold of Christ and become one with Him. Until then we are in awful danger. It would be better to have lived in Sodom than to have heard the Gospel in Britain and die unconverted.

# Questions

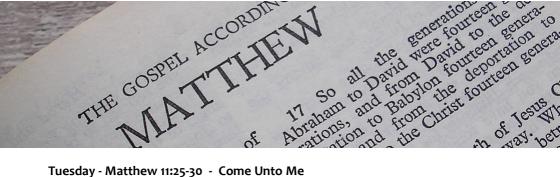
- 1. What did the Jews say about John the Baptist and Jesus?
- 2. What does Jesus warn us about here?

#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray for the salvation of family and friends.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# Memory Verse

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Matthew 5:8 Praise: Psalm 142- See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



# Tuesday - Matthew 11:25-30 - Come Unto Me

It is an excellent thing to have a child-like and teachable attitude. Nothing is so likely to keep a man out of heaven, and prevent him seeing Christ, as pride; so long as we think we are something we shall never be saved. The beginning of the way to Heaven is to feel that we are on the road to Hell.

These verses also show us the perfect union between the Father and the Son, and the immeasurable superiority of Christ to all mankind. All power is placed in Christ's hands. He bears the keys; to Him we must go for admission into Heaven. He is the door; through Him we must enter. He is the Shepherd; we must hear His voice and follow Him. He is the Physician; we must come to Him to be healed of sin. He is the bread of life; we must feed on Him if we want to be satisfied. He is the light; we must walk after Him if we don't want to wander in darkness. He is the fountain; we must wash in His blood.

Whom does Jesus invite to come to Him? Not those who feel righteous and worthy. He invites those who feel a weight on their heart they want to be free of, a weight of sin or a weight of sorrow, a weight of anxiety or a weight of regret, all, whoever they may be and whatever their past, all such are invited to come to Christ. There is rest in Christ, rest of conscience, and rest of heart, rest built on forgiveness of all sin, rest flowing from peace with God. Jesus makes no hard conditions; He says nothing of work to be done first or that we need to be deserving of His gift. He only asks us to come to Him just as we are, with all our sins, and to submit ourselves like little children to His teaching. No doubt there is a cross to be carried if we follow Christ; no doubt there are trials to be endured and battles to be fought; but the comforts of the Gospel far outweigh the cross.

#### Questions

- 1. What power does Christ have?
- 2. Whom does Christ invite to come to Him?

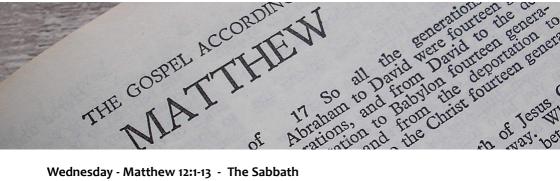
#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Give thanks for the love of Christ for His people.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### Memory Verse

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Matthew 5:8

Praise: Psalm 143 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



# Wednesday - Matthew 12:1-13 - The Sabbath

It's important to notice that nowhere does Christ say we are not to keep the Sabbath. What Christ is doing here is freeing the Sabbath from incorrect interpretations and purifying it from man-made additions. He has just stripped away the miserable traditions the Pharisees have wrapped around the day, traditions that make the Sabbath a burden not a blessing. Our Lord leaves the fourth commandment exactly where He finds it - a part of the eternal law of God, of which not one jot or tittle was ever to pass away.

Our Lord Jesus Christ allows all works of real necessity and mercy to be done on the Sabbath day. Our Lord justifies the disciples for picking corn on the Sabbath when they need food. He maintains that it's lawful to heal a sick man on the Sabbath day. He reminds the Pharisees how David and his men ate the holy showbread; He reminds them how the priests in the Temple are obliged to work on the Sabbath, by killing animals and offering sacrifices. He reminds them that even they would help an animal out of a pit on the Sabbath rather than let it suffer and die. He is making the point that we do not rest from doing good; we do not explain the fourth commandment in a way that breaks other commandments. We are not to be unkind and unmerciful to our neighbour, whatever the day.

We need to be careful though that we don't take Jesus' teaching as an excuse and pretend we're doing things on the Sabbath from necessity and mercy, which in reality we're doing for selfish reasons. The Pharisee pretended to add to the holiness of the day; we're more prone to take away from that holiness and treat it like any other day.

#### Questions

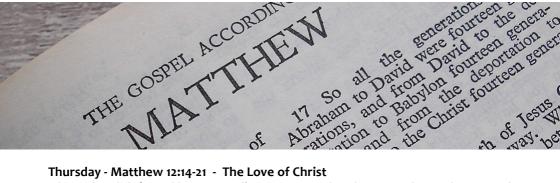
- 1. What does Christ teach about the Sabbath?
- 2. What should we be doing on the Sabbath?

#### Prayer Points

- 1. Give thanks for the gift of the Sabbath day.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### Memory Verse

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Matthew 5:8 Praise: Psalm 144 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



# Thursday - Matthew 12:14-21 - The Love of Christ

Silenced and defeated by our Lord's arguments, the Pharisees plunge deeper and deeper into sin. What evil has Jesus done that He should be so treated? None at all. No charge can be brought against His life. He is holy, harmless, undefiled, and separate from sinners; His days are spent in doing good. No charge can be brought against His teaching. But it doesn't matter how perfectly He lives and teaches; He is hated. The unconverted heart hates God and will show its hatred whenever it has a chance. They will persecute and attack Godly men and women because they hate God. So, it should never surprise Christians if they meet with the same treatment that Christ met with. The world hated Christ, and the world will hate Christians.

What does the "bruised reed" and the "smouldering wick" mean in this prophecy that Matthew applies to Christ? It is describing men and women whose grace is weak, whose repentance is feeble, and whose faith is small. Towards such persons the Lord Jesus Christ will be very tender and compassionate. There are some in every congregation that hears the Gospel, who are ready to despair of their own salvation, because their strength seems so small; they are full of fears and doubts, because their knowledge, and faith, and hope, and love, seem so little. They should take comfort from these verses. Weak faith gives us just as much a claim on Christ as strong faith, though it will not give us the same joy. The smallest bit of grace in our lives still comes from heaven and is ours forever. No one, no matter how weak or small, can be taken from Christ's hands.

# Questions

- 1. Why should we not be surprised when others hate us for our faith?
- 2. Who is the "bruised reed"?
- 3. What promise do we have about Christ here?

#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Give thanks for the love Christ has for you.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# Memory Verse

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Matthew 5:8 Praise: Psalm 145 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



# Friday - Matthew 12:22-37 - Our Words

Jesus shows that is unreasonable to suppose that the devil will help to pull down his own kingdom. But there is nothing too unreasonable for men to say when they are thoroughly sent against God. The Pharisees are not the only people who lose sight of logic, good sense, and temper, when they attack the Gospel. When the Christian's arguments cannot be answered, and the Christian's works cannot be denied, the last resource of the wicked is to try to blacken the Christian's character.

Jesus teaches that it is impossible to be neutral in your opinion of Him. There are only two sides. Are we with Christ and working for Him? If not, we are against Him. Jesus also teaches that the brighter the light, the greater the guilt of him who rejects it; the clearer a man's knowledge of the Gospel, the greater his sin, if he wilfully refuses to repent and believe.

Finally, Jesus teaches the immense importance of being careful about our daily words. There is nothing, perhaps, to which we pay less attention than our words. We go through our day, speaking without thinking, and figure that if what we do is right, it doesn't matter what we say. But is it true? Are our words unimportant? These verses show otherwise. Our words are evidence of the state of our hearts. One day we will give an account of our words as well as our deeds. How many foolish, sinful, and unprofitable things we have all said! How many of our words have flown far and wide, doing untold damage in other's lives! Let us resolve, by God's grace, to be more careful with what we say. Let us pray every morning that Christ will guard our lips from speaking evil.

# Questions

- 1. Why can we not be neutral about Jesus?
- 2. Why are we in more danger the more we know about Christ, if we do not believe?
- 3. Why must we be careful about what we say?

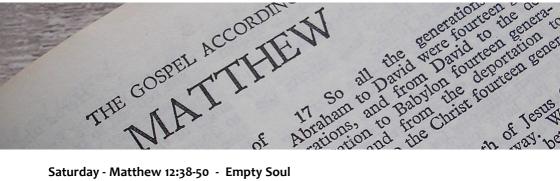
#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray that Christ would help you be careful in your speech.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### Memory Verse

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Matthew 5:8

Praise: Psalm 146 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



# Saturday - Matthew 12:38-50 - Empty Soul

The scribes and Pharisees pretend that they only want more evidence in order to be convinced and become disciples; they shut their eyes to the many wonderful works that Jesus has already done. There was evidence enough to convince them, but they have no wish to be convinced. Many say they only want a little more proof before they become Christians, but the truth is that they do not want to be convinced.

Jesus draws a terrible picture of the man to whom the unclean spirit returns. It is a picture that shows the history of the Jewish nation. Their repentance when they hear John the Baptist's preaching is only skin deep. Idol worship is replaced by routine religion. Their last state is becoming worse than their first. This is also a picture of the church today. Despite reformation and revivals, unbelief and sinfulness is worse now than it ever was. Saddest of all, this is a picture of many people's souls. At one time in their life they may have changed their ways, set sin aside, followed after good, but then they stop, go no further, and then give up on Christ altogether. Now they are worse than ever before. The point Jesus is making is that we can't be content with a partial reformation. It is a good thing to get sin out of our hearts, but we need to have the grace of God put in our hearts as well. We need to make sure we have not only got rid of the old tenant, the devil, but have a new tenant, the Holy Spirit.

Jesus counts all believing people as His relatives. He loves them, feels for them, cares for them, as members of His family. They are far more precious in their Lord's eves than they are in their own. There is not one little sister or brother in the family of the redeemed whom Jesus does not remember.

# Questions

1. Why is a partial change no good?

2. Who are the brothers and sisters of Christ?

#### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.

- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters

#### Memory Verse

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Matthew 5:8 Praise: Psalm 147 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps. The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

# God tells us that Ezra read from the book of the Law day after day and that the people of God were filled with joy!

Let's Worship God is produced by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

If you have any queries please contact - rpchurchscotland@gmail.com