

# Through The Bible In One Year

## The Adventure of Many Lifetimes

Unpublished Work, December 2005, David W. Shockey.

### Daily Scripture Selection

#### Week 39

**Day 267.** Isaiah 43.14-45.10; Ephesians 3.1-21;  
Psalm 66.1-18; and Proverbs 24.1-2.

**Day 268.** Isaiah 43.11-48.11; Ephesians 4.1-16;  
Psalm 68.19-35; and Proverbs 24.3-4.

**Day 269.** Isaiah 49.12-50.11; Ephesians 4.17-32;  
Psalm 69.1-18; and Proverbs 24.5-6.

**Day 270.** Isaiah 51.1-53.12; Ephesians 5.1-33;  
Psalm 69.19-36; and Proverbs 24.7.

**Day 271.** Isaiah 54.1-57.13; Ephesians 6.1-24;  
Psalm 70.1-5; and Proverbs 24.8.

**Day 272.** Isaiah 57.14-59.21; Philippians 1.1-26;  
Psalm 71.1-24; and Proverbs 24.9-10.

**Day 273.** Isaiah 60.1-62.5; Philippians 1.27-2.18;  
Psalm 72.1-20; and Proverbs 24.11-12.

## Through The Bible In One Year: Week 39 Sunday Worship Lessons

First Lesson (Old Testament): Isaiah 53.3-12

Psalm: 72.1-14

Second (New Testament) Lesson: Philippians 2.1-11

Theme: Jesus Christ, Suffering Servant And Exalted Son

### **Sunday Scripture Selection and Theme Explanation, Week 39:**

Is the way to the peace and joy we all seek, of finding meaning and purpose in our existence, to follow the world's suggestion of putting ourselves in the center and seeking self-satisfaction? That way leads nowhere. In fact, it leads to the certain loss of all we long for and seek. God provides another way. Centuries before the events themselves, God prophesied through Isaiah that God's Servant would suffer and die for sinners, reconciling them to God. Paul writes about the fulfillment of the prophecies at the cosmic proportions of Christ's undertaking in redeeming the world to God. God's Son humbled himself to be born in human form, stooped lower yet himself further to take the form of a servant, and humbled himself to the utmost by obediently enduring the humiliating death of the cross in fulfillment of his Father's will. By doing so, Christ won redemption for all who believe, and earned the name that is above all names and the praises of all creation. He is the Suffering Servant and exalted Son of God. His victory and acclaim because of his stooping to serve are also foretold in Isaiah 43.12 & Psalm 72.1-14. Followers of Christ are called to share the same mind and the same character of Christ: to serve rather than lord it over others, out of obedience to God, sharing the nature of Christ, which is love that serves. The 'way up' in the Kingdom of God is the way down—stooping 'beneath ourselves' to serve those in need. Believers in Christ are to share the same selfless love and service to others that Christ demonstrated. Suffering with him, we will also be exalted with him.

### **Alternate Readings & Themes:**

1. **“Idols or Images?”** People were created in the image and likeness of God to reflect and live God's nature here in the world. Instead, we create idols (vain attempts to secure ourselves). Through Jesus Christ, God is creating a new people (the Church) in the image and likeness of Christ, with leaders equipping the people for ministry so all grow into the fullness of Christ himself. **Isaiah 44.12-22; Psalm 68.4-10; Ephesians 4.11-16.**
2. **“Changed and Changing.”** God's Word—his free invitation into a life-giving relationship with him that is like cool water to a thirsty soul—changes a person even, so they become themselves instruments of change in their environment. Paul to the Ephesians calls on them to put off the old nature and live a transformed life that in turn transforms others around us. **Isaiah 55.1-11; Psalm 69.1-6; Ephesians 5.21-33.**