

Through The Bible In One Year

The Adventure of Many Lifetimes

Unpublished Work, December 2005, David W. Shockey.

Daily Scripture Selection

Week 41

- Day 281.** Jeremiah 10.1-11.23; Colossians 3.18-4.18; Psalm 78.56-72; and Proverbs 24.28-29.
- Day 282.** Jeremiah 12.1-14.10; 1 Thessalonians 1.1-29; Psalm 79.1-13; and Proverbs 24.30-34.
- Day 283.** Jeremiah 14.11-16.15; 1 Thessalonians 2.10-3.13; Psalm 80.1-19; and Proverbs 25.1-5.
- Day 284.** Jeremiah 16.16-18.23; 1 Thessalonians 4.1-5.3; Psalm 81.1-16; and Proverbs 25.6-7.
- Day 285.** Jeremiah 19.1-21.14; 1 Thessalonians 5.4-28; Psalm 82.1-8; and Proverbs 25.8-10.
- Day 286.** Jeremiah 22.1-23.20; 2 Thessalonians 1.1-12; Psalm 83.1-18; and Proverbs 25.11-14.
- Day 287.** Read Jeremiah 23.21-25.38; 2 Thessalonians 2.1-17; Psalm 84.1-12; and Proverbs 25.15.

Through The Bible In One Year: Week 41 Sunday Worship Lessons

First Lesson (Old Testament): Jeremiah 16.19-21
Psalm: 77.10-15

Second (New Testament) Lesson: Colossians 3.18-4.6

Theme: The Best Teacher You Will Ever Have

Sunday Scripture Selection and Theme Explanation, Week 41:

How should we think and act where we work and live every day? Is there a compass to direct us, to give us an unfailing direction to steer toward? Can anyone show us the way, teaching us how we can live the life we long for deep in our being? Jeremiah proclaims a prophecy of a day when God himself will teach people—not just his Old Testament chosen people, but all the ‘nations,’—people of all races and cultures. After Jesus Christ came, died and rose again, Paul proclaims to all people—husbands and wives, parents and children, slaves and masters—a surprisingly simple principle by which all can find the way in every situation: “Whatever you do, do it with all your heart, as working for the Lord and not for people...It is Jesus Christ you are serving.” In this way followers of Jesus will have their conversations always ‘seasoned with salt’ and make the most of every opportunity to help ‘outsiders’ become insiders and experience the Christ-life themselves. In fact, life becomes an adventure and every situation becomes an opportunity to show love to the one who loves us beyond belief.

Alternate Readings & Themes:

1. **“Pity Party? I Pass!.”** Even as a prophet of God, Jeremiah experienced terrible times of depression. Even his calling from God involved taking stands that set others at odds with him, affecting even his intimate relationships. Paul shares good news with the followers of Christ: as children of the light, we can be prepared to face difficult times (as a soldier might arm himself for battle) and be living with Christ now. In fact, Paul calls us to encourage one another and build each other up—providing in the community of faith and the real spiritual relationships Christ’s people provide, the very encouragement we all need to face the inevitable times of trouble and trial. **Jeremiah 20.7-10, 14-18; Psalm 79.5-13; 1 Thessalonians 5.4-10.**
2. **“The Kind of Leader You Want To Be.”** Everyone is a leader in some form or other. In fact, everyone is usually in several different leadership roles: in the home, at work, in community service groups, at church. Jeremiah’s prophetic word to the (bad) leaders of Israel, or shepherds, gives us much insight into how not to lead others. Paul, writing to the followers of Christ at Thessaloniki, urges them to support their leaders, and lays out some of the actions and characteristics of a good leader (warning the idle, encouraging the timid, helping the weak, showing patience to all, being joyful, praying always, and showing thankfulness) that every leader can benefit from. **Jeremiah 23.1-6; Psalm 80.7-19; 1 Thessalonians 5.12-16.**