

Through The Bible In One Year

The Adventure of Many Lifetimes

Unpublished Work, December 2005, David W. Shockey.

Daily Scripture Selection

Week 48

- Day 330.** Daniel 2.24-3.30; 1 Peter 4.7-5.14;
Psalm 119.81-96; and Proverbs 28.15-16.
- Day 331.** Daniel 4.1-37; 2 Peter 1.1-21 ;
Psalm 119.97-112; and Proverbs 28.17-18.
- Day 332.** Daniel 5.1-31; 2 Peter 2.1-22;
Psalm 119.113-128; and Proverbs 28.19-20.
- Day 333.** Daniel 6.1-28; 2 Peter 3.1-18;
Psalm 119.129-152; and Proverbs 28.21-22.
- Day 334.** Daniel 7.1-28; 1 John 1.1-10;
Psalm 119.153-176; and Proverbs 28.23-24.
- Day 335.** Daniel 8.1-27; 1 John 2.1-17;
Psalm 120.1-7; and Proverbs 28.25-26.
- Day 336.** Daniel 9.1-11.1; 1 John 2.18-3.6;
Psalm 121.1-8; and Proverbs 28.27-28.

Through The Bible In One Year: Week 48 Sunday Worship Lessons

First Lesson (Old Testament): Daniel 6.10-23

Psalm: 121.1-8

Second (New Testament) Lesson: 1 Peter 5.6-11

Theme: How To Live In A Lion's Den

Sunday Scripture Selection and Theme Explanation, Week 48:

How can we survive these difficult days? Everywhere people suffer. People are torn and tempted from all directions, as if clawed at by the world and Satan who want to turn them away and tear them away from God, who is life itself. In the Old Testament story Daniel is literally thrown into a den of lions because he practices his faith relationship and prayer with God. God keeps him safe there in the very home of the lions. Because of his faithful example, even the foreign king comes to acknowledge that God is God and no other. In the New Testament scripture lesson, Peter talks about our relentless adversary, the Devil, prowling about the earth like a lion seeking people to devour. The whole world is the haunt of evil, literally this lion's den where he is at home. Peter urges the Christ-followers of his day—and us today—to resist him. The secret is do draw closer to God, trust in him totally, and cast all our cares and anxieties on him. Suffering is the lot of all who follow Christ in this world, but in the end, all who believe overcome the world and Satan.

Alternate Readings & Themes:

1. **“!Participating In The Divine Nature—Or Not”**; The possibility is open to us not just to know about the divine nature, but to participate in it. Most people are trapped in our fallen human nature, which sets the Self in the center, like the Persian emperor in Daniel who idolized himself and became little more than an animal because he made himself the center. Believers in Christ, on the other hand, place God in the center of everything and will actually come to participate in the divine nature by doing so. This is the ultimate gift of God: that we share in the very life which God lives, participating in his divine nature. Daniel 4.29-37; Psalm 119.169-176; 2 Peter 1.3-11.
2. **“The End and the Endless”** What truly lasts in the world? The Bible says nothing in this world will, except people—who are eternal because God wills people to be raised and given eternal life once we die. The rest of the universe will perish in fire one day at the end of time. In Old Testament times, God prophesies through Daniel the fall of the Persian empire, and the rising of an eternal kingdom that will never end. That is the kingdom of Jesus Christ. His kingdom endures forever. People of faith seek to live in the coming kingdom now, sharing in the qualities and character traits of a citizen of Christ's endless kingdom now. Daniel 2.31-44; Psalm 119.89-96; 2 Peter 3.1-13.