

Through The Bible In One Year

The Adventure of Many Lifetimes

Unpublished Work, December 2005, David W. Shockey.

Daily Scripture Selection

Week 50

Day 344. Amos 1.1-3.15; Revelation 2.1-17;
Psalm 129.1-8; and Proverbs 29.19-20.

Day 345. Amos 4.1-6.14; Revelation 2.18-3.6;
Psalm 130.1-8; and Proverbs 29.21-22.

Day 346. Amos 7.1-9.15; Revelation 3.7-22;
Psalm 131.1-3; and Proverbs 29.23.

Day 347. Obadiah 1.1-21; Revelation 4.1-11;
Psalm 132.1-18; and Proverbs 29.24-25.

Day 348. Jonah 1.1-4.11; Revelation 5.1-14;
Psalm 133.1-3; and Proverbs 29.26-27.

Day 349. Micah 1.1-4.13; Revelation 6.1-17;
Psalm 134.1-3; and Proverbs 30.1-4.

Day 350. Micah 5.1-7.20; Revelation 7.1-17;
Psalm 135.1-21; and Proverbs 30.5-6.

Through The Bible In One Year: Week 50 Sunday Worship Lessons

First Lesson (Old Testament): Micah 6.6-8

Psalm: 131.1-3

Second (New Testament) Lesson: Revelation 3.14-21

Theme: Running On Pilot Light? Add The Fuel & Fan The Flame,!

Sunday Scripture Selection and Theme Explanation, Week 50:

The relentless, meaningless routines of our modern world make life arid and lead to spiritual death. Even faith in Jesus Christ and following him knows times of deadness or dryness. How can we not only endure but actually grow through these dead, dry times? Not through throwing ourselves with renewed vigor into religious activities! No by trying to do harder, better, more of what we have already done. The prophet Micah asks the essential question: ‘With what shall I come before the Lord?’ Offerings? Activities? The only things required are quite simple really: do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. The key is quietly returning to the Source by focusing on our personal relationship with God and living from that center every day. In Revelation, Jesus gives a message to a church that is neither on fire nor dead—just dead in the water. They are maintaining but not growing. Though they think they are rich, they are really impoverished spiritually. He urges them to ‘buy from me true gold refined in the fire.’ Jesus gives one of the greatest promises in the Bible: ‘If anyone opens the door to me, I will come in and eat with them.’ Jesus hungers for deeper relationship with each person, and the key is to hunger for him.

Alternate Readings & Themes:

1. **“The Absolute Worst Case Scenario: A Wordless World”** Words are what make us human. We think, remember, imagine with words. Most importantly, we are relational beings who communicate through speech. That’s because we are made in the image and likeness of God, a personal spiritual being who speaks. God’s Word is powerful and gives life. The prophet Amos speaks for God a sobering message: because of his people’s wrongdoing, God will send a famine, not of food, but of God’s Word. They will search for his Word but not find it. In the New Testament, John is given a message from Jesus Christ for a church in his day. They, too, have wandered and should come back to God. Even when we wander, God still speaks his Word to win us back to him. The most important thing we can do in life is have—and maintain—a close personal relationship with God through his Word, in which he reveals his mind, will and, above all, heart for us! Is your world Wordless?
Amos 8.11-14, 9:8-15; Psalm 135.13-21; Revelation 3.14-22
2. **“Our Tender, Tough God”**; God allows...and sometimes even causes...difficult consequences to come for people who have strayed into the way of death. God is not really angry, vengeful, or capricious God as some skeptics argue. God is completely loving, while also completely just. Such consequences are a sign of God’s tough love at work to redeem people. A good parent knows that sometimes love must be

tough to save the child from what ultimately would mean more hurt and harm. The ultimate expression of the loving tenderness of God is 'the Lamb who was slain' that John describes in the Bible passage from Revelation. He was slain for lost people, that all might be won back to God and life eternal with all the redeemed. In our relationships we, too, need to love completely...with tenderness and with toughness when required. **Amos 4.6-10, 5.1-6; Psalm 130.1-8; Revelation 5.1-14.**