

Bible Reading for Week of June 9, 2024

Monday, June 10 – 1 Samuel 4:12-22

This passage of Scripture is a sad story of God's judgement coming to pass. How has the glory departed from Israel in a way beyond simply having the ark of God being captured? How does what happens to Eli and Eli's daughter-in-law in this passage serve to intensify the current crisis among the people of God? How do the consequences of our own personal sins have a ripple effect on all those around us?

Tuesday, June 11 – 1 Samuel 5

How does verse 2 serve as a timeless commentary on how the world understands the nature of different religions? What do you think the Lord was seeking to teach the Philistines through the repeated falls of their idol and the outbreak of tumors among the people? Does God still send judgements today upon nations who worship their own gods but yet make a place for the Lord in their temples?

Wednesday, June 12 – 1 Samuel 6-7:2

Reflect on verse 3. Though the Philistines are polytheists (believing in many gods), what does the instruction of the priests and diviners in verse 5 seem to imply about their understanding of the God of Israel and His power? How does verse 12 testify to the truth that our God "upholds, directs, disposes, and governs all creatures, actions, and things from the greatest even to the least" (WCF V.1)?

Thursday, June 13 – 1 Peter 2:13-25

How is your response to the current governors and political leadership in America reflective of the fact that you are a servant of God who knows how to do good and "honor the emperor" as you have been commanded? What is the "gracious thing" mentioned twice in verse 19-20? Do Christians in our country today give the impression that suffering unjustly for being a Christian is a "gracious thing" being part of our calling from God?

Friday, June 14 – 1 Peter 3:1-7

What happens to the spiritual life of a husband who does not honor his wife and live with her in an understanding way? How would remembering that his wife is an heir with him "of the grace of life" affect how a husband loves and cares for her? Meditate on verse 4. How should such a verse affect how a woman considers the relative importance and priority of outward and inward beauty? How does it encourage you to know that some can be "won without a word" by the conduct of Christians?

Saturday, June 15 – 1 Peter 3:8-17

What would the church look like if all Christians fulfilled their calling to have unity, sympathy, love, tenderness, and humility? How does it encourage you today to know that "the eyes of the Lord" are on the righteous? Which does the Bible describe as a blessing: to sin, or to be sinned against for Christ's sake? Has anyone ever asked you why you are a Christian or why you have hope in the midst of suffering? According to these verses, how can we make sure we are prepared to answer?