



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

NINILCHIK

AUGUST 27TH, 2023

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING

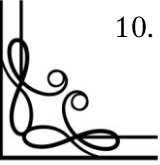
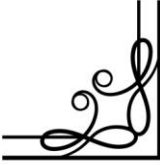
Ezra 4:1-24

In 1989, our dear shepherd at that time, Pastor Ron Blough, initiated our reading through a portion of the 66 books of the Bible as a congregation, typically a chapter each Sunday. Since then, we have been through the entire Bible one full time and are currently in Ezra, the 15th book of the Bible.



TODAY'S SERVICE



1. Hymn #83 - "God Is Holy"
 2. Opening Prayer & Announcements
 - a. CBC Bylaws Reading
 3. Hymn #55 - "At the Name of Jesus"
 4. Hymn #77- "With My Whole Heart"
 5. Hymn #378 - "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"
 6. Reading: **Bro. Galen Q.**
 7. **Message:** "Pure, Undeified Gospel Christianity"
 8. Hymn #388 - "I Know Whom I Have Believed"
 9. Benediction
 10. Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m.
Holy War #80; Ecclesiastes 7:1-29
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PURE, UNDEFILED GOSPEL CHRISTIANITY

But Zerubbabel, Jeshua, and the rest of the heads of fathers' houses in Israel said to them, "You have nothing to do with us in building a house to our God; but we alone will build to the LORD, the God of Israel, as King Cyrus the king of Persia has commanded us."

EZRA 4:3, ESV

I. *the* BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- A. Destruction of *the* Temple, 586 BC**
- B. Decree of Cyrus to Rebuild, 536 BC**
- C. Darius' 6th Year, Finished, 516 BC**

II. *the* BREAKDOWN of *the* CHAPTER

- A. the Samaritans Propose, vv1-3**
- B. the Samaritans Oppose, vv4-5**
- C. the Samaritans Compose, vv6-16**
 - 1. answer from the king, vv17-22
 - 2. arrested work progress, vv23-24

Book of Ezra

*National Restoration
under Zerubbabel*

Return to Land, 1-2

Rebuilding *the* Temple, 3

Resisting *the* Enemy, 4-6

*Spiritual Reformation
under Ezra*

Ezra Comes to *the* Land, 7-8

Ezra Confesses Sins, 9

Ezra Cleanses Nation, 10

III. *the* BLESSINGS EMPHASIZED *from* OUR TEXT

Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

2 Corinthians 6:14, ESV

A. Practical Gospel Illustrations & Applications

- 1. individual stewardship
- 2. personal friendships
- 3. marriage partnership
- 4. church fellowship

QUOTE of the WEEK

THIS is a great doctrinal truth, and I might with much propriety preach a doctrinal sermon from it, of which the sum and substance would be the sovereign grace of God. God's love is evidently prior to ours: "He first loved us." It is also clear enough from the text that God's love is the cause of ours, for "We love him because he first loved us." Therefore, going back to old time, or rather before all time, when we find God loving us with an everlasting love, we gather that the reason of his choice is not because we loved him, but because he willed to love us. His reasons, and he had reasons (for we read of the counsel of his will), are known to himself; but they are not to be found in any inherent goodness in us, or which was foreseen to be in us. We were chosen simply because he will have mercy on whom he will have mercy. He loved us because he would love us. The gift of his dear Son, which was a close consequent upon his choice of his people, was too great a sacrifice on God's part to have been drawn from him by any goodness in the creature. It was not possible for the highest piety to have deserved so vast a boon as the gift of the Only-begotten; it was not possible for anything in man to have merited the incarnation and the passion of the Redeemer. Our redemption, like our election, springs from the spontaneous self-originating love of God. And our regeneration, in which we are made actual partakers of the divine blessings in Jesus Christ, was not of us, nor by us. We were not converted because we were already inclined that way, neither were we regenerated because some good thing was in us by nature; but we owe our new birth entirely to his potent love, which dealt with us effectually, turning us from death to life, from darkness to light and from the alienation of our mind and the enmity of our spirit into that delightful path of love, in which we are now travelling to the skies. As believers on Christ's name we "were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." The sum and substance of the text is that God's uncaused love, springing up within himself, has been the sole means of bringing us into the condition of loving him. Our love to him is like a trickling rill, speeding its way to the ocean because it first came from the ocean. All the rivers run into the sea, but their floods first arose from it: the clouds that were exhaled from the mighty main distilled in showers and filled the waterbrooks. Here was their first cause and prime origin; and, as if they recognised the obligation, they pay tribute in return to the parent source. The ocean love of God, so broad that even the wing of imagination could not traverse it, sends forth its treasures of the rain of grace, which drop upon our hearts, which are as the pastures of the wilderness; they make our hearts to overflow, and in streams of gratitude the life imparted flows back again to God. All good things are of thee, Great God; thy goodness creates our good; thine infinite love to us draws forth our love to thee. [EMPHASIS IN ORIGINAL]

"Love's Logic" from the text, 1 John 4:19

a sermon delivered on August 27th, 1871

by **Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit, Volume 17, Sermon No. 1,008

This Week's Bible Portions from *Robert Murray McCheyne's "Daily Bread"*

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2023

FAMILY READINGS			PRIVATE READINGS	
1 Samuel 19	1 Cor. 1	27	Lament. 4	Psalms 35
1 Samuel 20	1 Cor. 2	28	Lament. 5	Psalms 36
1 Sam. 21-22	1 Cor. 3	29	Ezekiel 1	Psalms 37
1 Samuel 23	1 Cor. 4	30	Ezekiel 2	Psalms 38
1 Samuel 24	1 Cor. 5	31	Ezekiel 3	Psalms 39
1 Samuel 25	1 Cor. 6	1	Ezekiel 4	Psalms 40-41
1 Samuel 26	1 Cor. 7	2	Ezekiel 5	Psalms 42-43
1 Samuel 27	1 Cor. 8	3	Ezekiel 6	Psalms 44

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