

Week 222 - w/c 7/2/21

Monday: Acts 3:1-26. The beggar's healing gave Peter the opportunity to share the gospel with the crowd. But how people respond to miracles is not always what we might expect. The right response to answers to prayer should be an increased faith and a closer walk with Jesus. Is this true in your experience?

Tuesday: Job 3:1-26. Job never curses God as his wife did, but he does get depressed. Depression is not an indication of sin, but of difficulty. His experience causes him to struggle to understand God's wisdom in letting him be born. Being honest before God during our struggles is one of the routes to spiritual growth, as Job came to realise.

Wednesday: 2 Chronicles 32:1-33. Wholehearted service and faithfulness will always bring prosperity (2 Chron 31:21) but will not always bring freedom from major difficulties or problems, as this chapter makes clear. What did Hezekiah do in verses 7-8 that will be helpful to you in your difficulties?

Thursday: Proverbs 26:20-28. These verses focus on gossip and deceitful speech. How do these verses apply today? Do they have an application to those Christians who post on social media sites? How will you respond to this teaching today?

Friday: Jonah 2:1-10. As he was thrown into the sea, Jonah's attitude towards God changes at least in part, and he remembers what he said after the fish has swallowed him and he is not drowned. Verses 7-9 contain great truth and are his psalm of praise and his re-commitment to go God's way (reluctantly!). Thank God for the times he has intervened in your life to correct your wrong attitude and behaviour.

Weekend: 2 Peter 2:10-22. Read verses 20 and 21 again. Think of those you have known who have backslidden and not gone on with God as disciples. They are probably not in the same situation as these false teachers who lead others into sin and are still in a place where they could turn back to God. Pray for them to come back like the prodigal son, to the loving embrace of our Father God.