

Bible Readings Week 227 - w/c 14/3/21

Monday: Acts 6:1-15 The Jews were jealous over their law. They thought that Stephen was trying to attack the law of Moses. But when those in the Sanhedrin looked at Stephen, they could see that his face was like the face of an angel. This would have reminded them of Moses' shining face (Exodus 34:29-30). How did Stephen demonstrate stewardship and faithfulness?

Tuesday: Job 8:1-22 Bildad's basic argument was "Something bad is happening to you, so you must have done something bad". What is wrong with that argument? Bildad only focused on God's justice. What important attributes of God did he overlook?

Wednesday: Ezra 1:1-11 Though the returning exiles were in the minority they were a spirit-stirred minority. They faced a daunting task of returning to a ruined city and once there rebuilding the temple. There were many risks involved in this plan but they received encouragement from those around them. Are you facing any daunting situations at present? Pray for God's strength and guidance.

Thursday: Proverbs 27:10-17 See v17. Iron sharpens iron but it happens through striking, friction and with sparks. To be able to develop and grow, at times we need to receive and give constructive criticism. We shouldn't shy away from this, but it must be done in love. How do you respond to constructive criticism?

Friday: Micah 3:1-12 In vs 5-8 Micah rebukes the false prophets, whose lies made it easy for the corrupt officials to carry on their evil deeds. Micah was willing to proclaim God's message and was unafraid of what the people might do or say. In vs 9-12 the rulers of Israel were distorting the truth. Remember, any theology that makes it easy to sin is not biblical theology.

Weekend: 1 John 2:15-27 Loving the world can give us short term benefits such as status or comfort but this fades away. Doing the will of God results in eternal life. Do you struggle with lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes or the pride of life? Pray that you will not conform to the patterns of this world, but that you will be transformed by the renewing of your mind (Romans 12:2).