## Bible Readings Week 229 - w/c 28/3/21

**Monday:** Acts 7:37 - 8:1 God has not called us all to be martyrs, but he has called us to be living sacrifices (Romans 12:1-2). If we are living for Christ, we should be willing to die for him if that is what God calls us to do. In what ways would you like to be more like Stephen? How can you follow his example this week?

**Tuesday: Job 10:1-22** Job was unable to see the big picture, that God was using him as a weapon to defeat Satan. All Job could give to God was his suffering by faith; but that is just what God wanted in order to silence the Devil. Suffering often seems to us like it did to Jobas if we are being destroyed for nothing. How does our suffering look different to God?

**Wednesday: Ezra 3:1-13** Long before they could rebuild the temple, they wisely started with building the altar for burnt offerings and other sacrifices. This was a wise spiritual priority, showing they understood their need to have atonement from sin and acts of dedication to God. Praise God that we can come to His altar at any time. Examine your heart and spend some time in confession today.

**Thursday: Ecclesiastes 2:1-26** See v25 Without God who can eat or find enjoyment? Without God life is empty. God needs to be central in our lives. Long term satisfaction only comes from God. God has created us to know Him and find purpose in Him. Where are you currently finding your purpose? Do you need to reassess your priorities?

**Friday: Micah 5:1-15** In this prophecy Micah reveals numerous important facts about the Messiah. He is the eternal God, He will lead his flock with the Lord's strength and He will be a source of peace. Micah presented an encouraging scenario but the people didn't seem to grasp the significance; for if they had they would have turned to the Lord in gratitude and repentance. How will you respond to God today?

**Weekend: 1 John 3:11-24** See v16. We know what love is because Jesus laid down his life for us. Praise God for his love that endures forever and his saving grace. How can you show God's love to others this week through your "actions and in truth"? Spend some time assessing your relationships. Do you need to make any amends?