

Bible Readings Week 254 - w/c 19/9/21

Monday: Acts 22:30 - 23:35. Paul experienced God's protection at every turn. He had a promise from God (v11), and also his nephew's warning, which the Roman Commander heard and promptly acted on, by sending Paul under armed escort to Caesarea. Thank God that whatever difficulties arise in our lives, we can trust in God's protective hand.

Tuesday: Job 36:1-33. Elihu makes a simple but profound statement in the context of suffering. "How great is God beyond our understanding" (v26). Sometimes we will not find answers to our questions and must simply trust that God has a plan in it all.

Wednesday: Esther 4:1-17. Look again at v 14. In the face of impending disaster, staying silent is never an option. God's purposes will be accomplished, but our obedience will determine whether we share in them or not. "Who knows" - we don't know what will happen but must step out in faith.

Thursday: Proverbs 31:1-9. Verses 8 & 9 are key verses to encourage us to speak out on issues of social justice. How do you apply these verses in your life? Do you keep up to date on matters of social justice through organisations like CARE and the Christian Institute? Do you write to your MP on issues that matter? Do you help and speak up for the poor and needy?

Friday: Zechariah 12:1-14. God's promises to Israel on "that day" are promises to protect them and speak also of the Lord's care of his new covenant people on the day of judgement. Look also at verse 10. This applies to us also. When you see Jesus pierced for our sin, there will be grieving as well as rejoicing. Why do you think that is?

Weekend: Revelation 16:1-21. In these 7 "bowl" judgements, God is declared to be just in his judgements (v5-7), and this is true also of all his judgements. Do you acknowledge his fairness and justice or do you struggle with some of his declarations as judge? Remember, he sees the whole picture and from a different perspective to yours!