

Daily Walk With God

Week 45

Week 45 Day 1

Readings: John 8:30-36; James 4:1-10; Psalm 108; Proverbs 27:8-14; Zephaniah 1-3.

Focus Verse: "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32)

Key Concept: The Attitude of Disciples Toward Truth (John 8:31-32). Disciples of Jesus abide in His word. In encouraging such faithfulness, Jesus makes some broad and emphatic points about the Truth He revealed. Notice key words in verse 32:

- (1) You - Individuals have a responsibility.
- (2) Shall - Jesus expects us to learn His will.
- (3) Know - Truth is "knowable."
- (4) Truth - Not some evasive, undefined idea. Jesus speaks of truth as objective and understandable.
- (5) Free - Spiritual freedom comes only through knowledge of truth.

Those who suggest that the truth is beyond reach are saying that we cannot be set free from sin. If we can't know the truth, then Jesus is a liar who died in vain.

Action: Devote time today to learning the truth.

Week 45 Day 2

Readings: John 8:37-47; James 4:11-17; Psalm 109:1-20; Proverbs 27:15-21; Haggai 1-2.

Focus Verse: "Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin." (James 4:17)

Key Concept: Tomorrow (James 4:13-17). It is common to make elaborate plans for many tomorrows, often with little or no preparation for eternity. James warns about the dangers of such shortsightedness. Tomorrow is entirely conditional upon God's will. To presume that we'll have tomorrow is arrogant boasting. Today presents opportunities to do good. To neglect these opportunities is sinful.

Action: Do good today. Remember that tomorrow's plans depend upon God's will.

Week 45 Day 3

Readings: John 8:48-59; James 5:1-12; Psalm 109:21-31; Proverbs 27:22-27; Zechariah 1-2.

Focus Verse: "Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death." (John 8:51)

Key Concept: Jesus Said: "Before Abraham Was, I Am" (John 8:58). Many Jews stumbled at the claims of Jesus regarding His deity. They clearly understood His claim of eternal existence to be a claim of divinity, but they were unwilling to accept that conclusion. Many today also reject Jesus as the Son of God. They may view Him as a great prophet, or even call Him "a god," but they do not recognize His eternal existence as God. In so denying Jesus, they are denying themselves access to the salvation He offers (cf. John 8:24).

Action: Acknowledge Jesus as the Son of God, not just in words, but in actions of reverent obedience.

Week 45 Day 4

Readings: John 9:1-12; James 5:13-20; Psalm 110; Proverbs 28:1-7; Zechariah 3-4.

Focus Verse: "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." (John 9:5)

Key Concept: Healer of Blindness (John 9:1-12). To emphasize His role as the light of the world, Jesus healed a blind man. The man obeyed Jesus' instructions without hesitation and he was given sight. The clay and the washing did not provide the power of healing, but they were required by the will of Jesus. Today, water baptism does not have power of itself, but it is required by the will of God for those who want to be "healed" of sin.

Action: Are you still in darkness? Allow Jesus to heal you.

Week 45 Day 5

Readings: John 9:13-23; 1 Peter 1:1-12; Psalm 111; Proverbs 28:8-14; Zechariah 5-6.

Focus Verse: "Happy is the man who is always reverent, but he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity." (Proverbs 28:14)

Key Concept: Reverence Before God (Proverbs 28:14). Pride is a dangerous thing. Even people who do many good things can become proud and unwilling to change. God expects continual reverence before Him as we search His word and examine our own hearts. Our Bible study must be more than academic learning or learning to teach others. We must first allow God to teach us. That means studying with an open mind and changing ourselves when God says we need to change.

Action: Study today to find out what God wants you to be.

Week 45 Day 6

Readings: John 9:24-34; 1 Peter 1:13-25; Psalm 112; Proverbs 28:15-21; Zechariah 7-8.

Focus Verse: "But as He who called you is holy, you also are holy in all your conduct." (1 Peter 1:15)

Key Concept: Be Holy Because Jesus Died (1 Peter 1:13-19). Peter makes an appeal for sanctified living based upon:

- (1) The holiness of God (vv. 15-16);
- (2) The justice of God (v. 17); and
- (3) The price of redemption--Christ's blood (vv. 18-19).

The message should be clear--God did not create us and redeem us just so we could throw our lives away in sin. He wants us to be pure.

Action: "Be holy in all your conduct."

Week 45 Day 7

Readings: John 9:35-41; 1 Peter 2:1-12; Psalm 113; Proverbs 28:22-28; Zechariah 9-10.

Focus Verse: "You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 2:5)

Key Concept: Cornerstone or Stumbling Stone? (1 Peter 2:4-10). Different people view Jesus differently. To many, He is a stumbling stone--a troublesome annoyance on their path. To others, He is the cornerstone upon which life is built. Peter reminds us of this fundamental contrast between Christians and the world. If we are different at the foundation, we clearly should be different in our entire structure. That difference will show in the way we live. Christians don't blend in with the servants of Satan!

Action: Be sure you are building on the right foundation.