 

Aug.27-Sep.2

2018

A WORD for the Journey

These are short daily Bible readings that have been chosen to reinforce a particular teaching that is important to help us live successfully as disciples of Jesus. They can be used individually, with your spouse, friend or used as family readings. Each week’s readings correspond to the previous Sunday’s sermon preached at Beaches Baptist Church. You can download the sermon from <https://beachesbaptist.com/>

**JESUS MAKES ALL THINGS NEW**

Last week our readings concentrated on the thought that all who receive Jesus as their Lord and Saviour receive an ongoing restoration and transformation by God’s Holy Spirit in their lives. One of the verses we looked at was 2 Corinthians 5:17 which says, *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.* As we now continue on with the Gospel of John, we will see that John 2:1-4:45 speaks of how Jesus brings about a new order of things. He replaces the old Jewish forms of religious purification (Jn.2:1-11); He replaces the old temple (Jn.2:12-25); He offers new birth (Jn.3), an abundant spring of living water (Jn.4:1-19), and direct access to Him in our worship (Jn.4:20-45).

Monday

John 2:1-11 (ESV)

On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. **2**Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. **3**When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” **4**And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come.” **5**His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

**6**Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. **7**Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim.**8**And he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.” So they took it. **9**When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom **10**and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now.” **11**This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

**Reflect:** John, in his Gospel, uses the word ‘sign’ instead of miracle. The ‘signs’ work as parables to show that Christ’s coming is bringing about the fulfillment of all that God had promised through the Old Testament prophets regarding the Messiah and the final ‘wrap-up’ of creation. Here we see the old modes of Jewish purification and ritual (hence the old wine and stone water jars) were being replaced by the new way of Christ- and His way is best!

Tuesday

Isaiah 25:6-10 (MSG)

**6-8**But here on this mountain, God-of-the-Angel-Armies  
    will throw a feast for all the people of the world,  
A feast of the finest foods, a feast with vintage wines,  
    a feast of seven courses, a feast lavish with gourmet desserts.  
And here on this mountain, God will banish  
    the pall of doom hanging over all peoples,  
The shadow of doom darkening all nations.  
    Yes, he’ll banish death forever.  
And God will wipe the tears from every face.  
    He’ll remove every sign of disgrace  
From his people, wherever they are.  
    Yes! God says so!

**9-10**Also at that time, people will say,  
    “Look at what’s happened! This is our God!  
We waited for him and he showed up and saved us!  
    This God, the one we waited for!  
Let’s celebrate, sing the joys of his salvation.  
    God’s hand rests on this mountain!”

**Reflect:** The end of the age will be marked by the great wedding banquet of the Lord and His bride. It will be a great celebration of His awesome power and wisdom. A celebration of His salvation to all the peoples of the world who have put their trust in Him.

Wednesday

Revelation 19:1-8 (NIV)

After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting:

“Hallelujah!  
Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,  
**2**    for true and just are his judgments.  
He has condemned the great prostitute  
    who corrupted the earth by her adulteries.  
He has avenged on her the blood of his servants.”

**3**And again they shouted:

“Hallelujah!  
The smoke from her goes up for ever and ever.”

**4**The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who was seated on the throne. And they cried:

“Amen, Hallelujah!”

**5**Then a voice came from the throne, saying:

“Praise our God,  
    all you his servants,  
you who fear him,  
    both great and small!”

**6**Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting:

“Hallelujah!  
    For our Lord God Almighty reigns.  
**7**Let us rejoice and be glad  
    and give him glory!  
For the wedding of the Lamb has come,  
    and his bride has made herself ready.  
**8**Fine linen, bright and clean,  
    was given her to wear.”

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God’s holy people.)

**Reflect:** The multitude of redeemed peoples from all nations and from all ages as they sing praises to God sounds like an almighty roar! The wedding banquet of the Lamb being united with His bride- the Church- will be a celebration beyond and above anything that has ever been seen!

Thursday

Revelation 19:9-10 (ESV)

**9**Then the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!” And he added, “These are the true words of God.”

**10**At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “Don’t do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus.”

**Reflect:** As Jesus was attending the wedding at Cana, what must have been going through His mind with regard to His time on earth and His death on the cross as the Lamb of God who was to be sacrificed for our sins? It was this sacrifice which is to make His future wedding banquet possible.

Friday

Jn.12:20-32 (ESV)

**20**Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. **21**So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” **22**Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. **23**And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. **24**Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. **25**Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. **26**If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

**27**“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. **28**Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” **29**The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” **30**Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. **31**Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.**32**And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.”

**Reflect:** In John 2:4 Jesus says, “My hour has not yet come.” What is this “hour” (meaning “time”) that He is talking about? Well here it is in John 12:23- “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.” Jesus’ ‘hour’ was to occur when He would be lifted up on the cross (v32)- this would be His glorification when all people, whether Jew or Gentile, would be drawn to salvation in Him.

Saturday

Rev.21:1-4 (ESV)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **2**And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3**And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. **4**He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

**Reflect:**  At the wrap-up of all things, at the end of this age, Jesus puts all things right. He makes all things new- including a new heaven and a new earth.

Sunday

Revelation 21:5-8 (ESV)

**5**And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” **6**And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. **7**The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. **8**But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”

**Reflect:** Jesus will dwell with us who have believed in Him and He will put away from His presence all who haven’t. He is the Alpha and Omega- Jesus started it (John 1:1), and He will end it victoriously!