

Open My Eyes

Open my eyes, that I may behold wonderful things from Your Law. – Psalm 119:18

Through the Bible in a year reading guide – Abiding Savior Free Lutheran Church

July/Aug – Week 31 Completed

30 - Luke	6-7	<input type="checkbox"/>
31 - Luke	8-9	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 - Luke	10-11	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 - Luke	12-13	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 - Luke	14-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 - Luke	17-18	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 - Luke	19-20	<input type="checkbox"/>

We read God's Word:
 To know Him better
 To love Him more
 To walk in His ways
 To be conformed to the image of His Son

This week's reading: continues through Luke. **Only** twice did Jesus commend people having "great faith" (7:9; also Matt. 8:10; 15:28) and neither were Jewish. Sometimes Jesus asked people about their faith (Matt. 9:28), but sometimes He didn't, and gave from love (7:11-15). **Jesus** shows that God, in His great sovereignty, decided to give us a choice: in 7:29-30 the Pharisees and lawyers (in contrast to the people and tax-gatherers) rejected God's purpose for themselves; and in 13:34 the will of Jesus was to gather His people to Himself, but they were not willing. **A** great love for Jesus is found in an accurate realization of: God's holiness, and the horrible weight of our sin (7:40-47). Isaiah 51:1 admonishes us to remember the rock and pit from which we were dug. **Some** "believe for a while, and in time of temptation fall away" (8:12-13). **Jesus** has compassion for individuals (as in 8:47-48). **It** has been said, "Salvation is free (to us; it cost Jesus dearly) but discipleship will cost your life!" (9:23-26,62) **1 Tim.** 5:18 quotes Scripture, "The laborer is worthy of his wages." Where in Scripture? In Luke 10:7! Paul quoted this Gospel! That means Luke was written and spread to the churches before Paul wrote 1 Timothy (approximately 63 AD). **It** is important to serve Jesus, but not at the neglect of time at His feet listening to Him (10:38-42). **Mary** was very blessed to be the mother of Jesus, but when undue attention was given to her, Jesus changed the focus of who is blessed (11:27-28). **Levels** of punishment (12:47-48) - sobering words indeed! **Hate** (14:26) = loving another more. Jacob didn't "hate" Leah as we think of "hate"; he simply loved Rachel more. (Also Matt. 10:37 and Deut. 13:4,6-10 - we are to love the Lord more.) **The** laughter of God! It isn't the angels rejoicing (15:7,10). The rejoicing is "in heaven", "in the presence of the angels".

Insights from the Original Biblical Languages (Hebrew, Greek, Aramaic):

Jesus tells us to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Him (9:23). The word "follow" is a Greek present imperative (indicating a command of continual action - continually follow Him!) **Jesus** reveals what happens after death (16:19-31), mentioning Hades (ᾍδης pronounced "ha'-days" in Greek). Some translations use "hell" or "pit" or "grave" to represent four different words that are names of real places. As names, they should not be "translated". (Example: "Bethlehem" is a name, not normally translated as "house of bread".) Some translations give the names, but the translations using these other words can be confusing regarding the subject of Hell. The Hebrew word שְׁאוֹל (Sheol "sheh-ole") is the same place as the Greek word, Hades, the word used in the Greek translation of the Hebrew Scriptures (Septuagint, or LXX). Therefore, we can examine "Hades" (occurs 11 times) and "Sheol" (66 times) together; they are not the eternal hell. Sheol (Hades) is not the grave. People can see a grave, put a body in a grave, touch a grave, make (dig) a grave, there are graves (plural), and they are for a person. But not Sheol - no one sees it, puts a body in it, can't touch it, can't make it, is never plural, never belongs to an individual. In Rev. 20:13-14 Hades (Sheol) is emptied so that those in it can be judged at the Great White Throne, then it is thrown into the Lake of Fire. Another place, mentioned only once (2 Pet. 2:4) is "Tartarus". Some versions call it "hell", however, context shows it is a place where fallen angels are kept bound for judgment. "Abyss" in Luke 8:31 may be the same place. (There is no indication that people go there.) The fourth place is "Gehenna" (γέεννα - occurs 12 times, mostly by Jesus, but also James 3:6). It is a Hebrew name brought into Greek, and is the name of the Lake of Fire mentioned in Revelation, the "Second Death". It is the eternal hell, where "They will be tormented day and night forever and ever." (Rev 20:10)

How has God revealed Himself in this week's reading? What has He shown me this week?

The goodness of God is evident in the lovingkindness of Jesus, as shown through meeting needs and healing. The Most High is kind to ungrateful and evil people (6:35). He knows our thoughts (7:39). He has chosen gladly to give us the Kingdom (12:32). The almighty King, having all authority, the same Jesus, will continue to serve (12:35-38)!