

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

September – Week 37

Completed

10 - Psalms	144-150	<input type="checkbox"/>
11 - Galatians	1-3	<input type="checkbox"/>
12 - Galatians	4-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
13 - Ephesians	1-3	<input type="checkbox"/>
14 - Ephesians	4-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
15 - Proverbs	1-3	<input type="checkbox"/>
16 - Proverbs	4-7	<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: we finish Psalms, Galatians, Ephesians, and begin Proverbs. **Galatia** was not a city, but rather, a region with multiple cities. **Galatians** is considered the earliest of Paul's letters, and makes a great argument against the "Judaizers" (mentioned in weeks 16 and 33), showing our salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus alone, not maintained by "Jesus + law". Paul calls the Judaizers "false brothers" (2:4; also see 2 Cor. 11:26). **While** John introduced Jesus as "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29), Jesus' sacrifice is applied individually: in Gal. 2:20 he says, "the Son of God who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me" - praise God! **Certainly**, our salvation is in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, by grace, through faith in Jesus! Christ redeemed us from the curse, to the blessing of Abraham, and to receive the promise of the Spirit through faith (3:13-14). **In** the "fullness of time" God sent His Son (4:4); Alexander the Great spread the Greek language throughout his empire, then the Romans conquered the Greeks and built roads. Therefore, a person could go anywhere, and talk to anyone! And God used these to spread the Gospel. **5:19-25** contrasts the deeds of the flesh to the Fruit of the Spirit. **Some** key words in Ephesians: "heavenly places" (5x), "mystery" (6x), "love" (15x), in Him (8x). **Jesus** dwells in our hearts through faith (3:17). **I've** never seen a marriage based on 5:22-33 fail. **6:10-18** lists the spiritual armor of God. **May** we all love Jesus with an "incorruptible love" (6:24). **The** first nine chapters of Proverbs are an introduction, giving the purpose of the book and wise advice. **In** 4:3-9 Solomon quotes the teaching of his father (David). **In** 1:7,29, and 2:5, we see (expressed in different ways) that the fear of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge!

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

Psalm 145 is an acrostic, but in the traditional Hebrew text, the letter "נ" ("noon") is not represented. However, both the LXX (Septuagint, Greek translation) and the Dead Sea Scrolls have the "נ": "Yahweh is faithful in His words, and holy in all His works." Six modern translations include this text in verse 13 (NASB20, ESV, NIV, CSB, RSV, and NLT). God's Word has not been lost! **Also**, in the LXX, the Hebrew word meaning "devoted to destruction" is translated into Greek as "anathema" (Gal. 1:8-9 usually translated "accursed"). LXX examples: Num. 21:3 and Joshua 6:17-18. **Jesus** said not to call anyone a fool (Matt. 5:22), yet, in Galatians 3:1 Paul calls them foolish. In Greek, these are two different words. In Galatians, the word means "not understanding". The word in Matt. 5:22 means "stupid" ("stupid is not the same as "not understanding"). **The** Greek word for "tutor" in 3:24 is "boy-leader" - a servant charged to take children to school. **The** Greek word for "walk" in 5:24 means to "advance in a line". **We** are able to "acknowledge" things without liking them. However, in Hebrew, Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "Trust in Yahweh with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways know Him, and He will make your paths straight." To know Him is more of a relationship than to simply "acknowledge" Him. **In** Proverbs 1:17, "bird", in Hebrew is "owner of wing".

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

He is my "chesed" (lovingkindness, steadfast love), fortress, stronghold, deliverer, shield, refuge (144:2). He cares for us, though we are "a mere breath" (144:3-4). He is great, greatly to be praised, His greatness is unsearchable (145:3). He has abundant goodness (145:7). He is gracious, merciful, slow to anger, great in lovingkindness, good to all, His mercies are over all His works (145:8-9). His kingdom is everlasting (145:13). He sustains and raises up those bowed down (145:14). He is righteous in all His ways, kind in all His deeds, near to all who call upon Him in truth, He fulfills the desire of those who fear Him, He hears, saves, and keeps the ones loving Him. (145:17-20). He opens the eyes of the blind, protects, supports (146:8-9). He heals the brokenhearted, binds wounds, is abundant in strength, His understanding is innumerable, He brings down the wicked (147:3-6). **Gal.** 4:6 and Eph. 2:18 allude to the Trinity.