

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

Nov./Dec – Week 48

Completed

26 - Daniel	1-3	☐
27 - Daniel	4-6	☐
28 - Daniel	7-9	☐
29 - Daniel	10-12	☐
30 - Hebrews	1-4	☐
1 - Hebrews	5-7	☐
2 - Hebrews	8-10	☐

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: the chapters in Daniel are not in chronological order: this is the chapter sequence: 1,2,3,4,7,8, 5,9,6,10-12. **The** book of Daniel dates to the 6th century BC. Some (contrary to the evidence) claim Daniel wasn't written until 165 BC. However, (1) Jesus referred to the prophet Daniel as authoritative (Matt. 13:43;24:14,30;26:64 etc.); (2) it is in the Septuagint (Greek translation), so it was written and translated before 165 BC; and, (3) Daniel has 200 verses (2:4 -7:28) written in Aramaic, specifically, "Imperial Aramaic", a distinguishable style of Aramaic, common in the 6th century BC. Because Daniel accurately prophesied the coming Messiah's death and resurrection, it should not surprise us that his prophecies regarding Babylon, the Medes and Persians, Greece, and Rome are also accurate. Therefore, we can be sure that the things yet to come will surely be fulfilled. **In** Daniel's own daily Bible reading, he saw that Jeremiah prophesied the 70-year exile (25:11-12 and 29:10), and he understood Bible prophecy to be literal (9:2). **We** cannot be sure who wrote the letter to the Hebrews (Hebrews and 1 John do not give the author's name). The Greek text style is different from Paul's letters (English translations smooth it out). Also, compare the description of receiving the Gospel in 2:3 (as a 2nd generation Christian), compared with Paul's assertion (Gal. 1:11-12) that he received the Gospel straight from Jesus. **Hebrews** shows Jesus is superior to the angels and Moses, and that His priesthood, tabernacle, and covenant, are superior! **Jesus** taught the words of the Father (John 7:16, 14:24), but, in Hebrews, Jesus is the message - the greatest revelation of God - He is the exact representation of His nature (Heb 1:3). Know God better by getting to know Jesus better, as He is revealed in the letter to the Hebrews! **Hebrews** 9:22 says, "almost all things are purified with blood". Why "almost"? Lev 5:11 makes an exception: if a person was too poor to afford two turtledoves or pigeons, they could bring a grain offering for their Guilt Offering atonement. Lev. 17:11 says that the life of the flesh is in the blood, so it was given for atonement. **In** the description of the Tabernacle "furniture" (Heb. 9:3-4), you may note the Golden Altar of Incense, which was originally placed outside the veil (in the Holy Place, not the Holy of Holies) was moved into the Most Holy Place. This move took place in 1 Kings 6:20 when Solomon built the temple. **Hebrews** (chapters 7-10, and other New Testament verses) makes it clear Jesus' sacrifice was "once for all". He doesn't need to be sacrificed over and over again. Please see "The Bible Vs. Tradition" PDF.

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

The Hebrew names (1:7): Daniel = "My Judge (is) God"; Hananiah = "Yahweh (is) Gracious"; Mishael = "Who That (as) God"; and Azariah = "Yahweh Helped". **We** have an idiom: "getting chewed out". Aramaic has a similar idiom in Dan. 3:8 and 6:24, usually translated as "brought charges" or "accused", but is literally, "they ate the pieces of them/him". **In** 7:14, the Aramaic word translated "serve" (פָּלַח pronounced "peh-lahkh") is only used for "serving someone (or something) considered to be deity". The Messiah is to be served as deity! **In** week 42 I mentioned when both οὐ and μή are used together, they make the strongest possible negative statement available in Koine Greek. In Hebrews 8:12 (and 10:17), "and their sins and their lawless deeds there is no possible way I will remember still". Comforting!

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

God is the One who changes times and seasons, removes and establishes kings, gives wisdom and understanding, reveals the profound and hidden things, knows what is in darkness, and light dwells with Him (2:21-22). His dominion is everlasting, and His kingdom is from generation to generation (4:34). He is ruler over mankind (5:21). Our life-breath is in His hand (5:23). He delivers and rescues (6:27). He is great and awesome and keeps covenant and lovingkindness for the ones who love Him and keep His commandments (9:4). **Jesus** is the greatest communication of God (Heb. 1:1-3). **The** deity of Jesus resounds in the first chapter of Hebrews in the quotes from the Old Testament!

Tradition: The sacrifice of the Mass (one of the most important events in being a Roman Catholic - 'It remains the center of the Church's life.' - Catechism 1343) "The sacrifice of Christ and the sacrifice of the Eucharist are one single sacrifice: 'The victim is one and the same: the same now offers through the ministry of priests, who then offered himself on the cross; only the manner of offering is different.' 'In this divine sacrifice which is celebrated in the Mass, the same Christ who offered himself once in a bloody manner on the altar of the cross is contained and is offered in an unbloody manner.'" - Catechism 1367

As a sacrifice, the Eucharist is also offered in reparation for the sins of the living and the dead and to obtain spiritual or temporal benefits from God. - Catechism 1414

Holy Communion separates us from sin - Catechism 1393

Mass - "The Sacrifice of the Eucharist as the central act of worship of the (Roman) Catholic Church... As defined by the Church at the Council of Trent, in the Mass, 'The same Christ who offered himself once in a bloody manner on the altar of the cross, is present and offered in an unbloody manner.' Consequently, the Mass is a truly propitiatory sacrifice, which means that by this oblation 'the Lord is appeased'. He grants grace and the gift of repentance, and He pardons wrongdoings and sins, even grave ones. For it is one and the same victim."

"The re-presentation means that because Christ is really present in his humanity, in heaven and on the altar, he is capable now as he was on Good Friday of freely offering himself to the Father. He can no longer die because he now has a glorified body, but the essence of his oblation remains the same."

"He voluntarily offers himself, the eternal high priest, as really as he did on Calvary."

"The priest is indispensable, since he alone by his powers can change the elements of bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ." (Hardon)

"Christ gave His priests the power to change bread and wine into His body and blood when He said to the Apostles, *Do this in commemoration of Me*. The priests exercise this power of changing bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ through the words of consecration in the Mass, which are the words of Christ: *This is My body; this is My blood*." Baltimore Catechism 249-250

The Mass is the unbloody sacrifice of the body and blood of Christ. Baltimore Catechism 263

The Mass is the same sacrifice as that of the Cross because the offering and the priest are the same-Christ our Blessed Lord; and the ends for which the sacrifice of the Mass is offered are the same as those of the sacrifice of the Cross.

The ends for which the sacrifice of the Cross was offered were: 1. To honor and glorify God; 2. To thank Him for all the graces bestowed on the whole world; 3. To satisfy God's justice for the sins of men; 4. To obtain all graces and blessings. Baltimore Catechism 265-267

Host - "A victim of sacrifice, and therefore the consecrated Bread of the Eucharist considered as the sacrifice of the Body of Christ... Latin hostia, sacrificial offering." (Hardon)

The Bible says,

"For the death that He died, HE DIED TO SIN, ONCE FOR ALL; but the life that He lives, He lives to God." (Rom. 6:10) (Hint: What does 'once for all' mean? A little more? Regularly? Or never again?)

"And the former priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers, because they were prevented by death from continuing, but He, on the other hand, because He abides forever, holds His priesthood permanently. Hence, also, He is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens; who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins, and then for the sins of the people, because this He did ONCE FOR ALL when He offered up Himself. For the Law appoints men as high priests who are weak, but the word of the oath, which came after the Law, appoints a Son, made perfect forever." (Heb. 7:23-28)

"But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place ONCE FOR ALL, having obtained eternal redemption." (Heb. 9:11-12)

"For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a mere copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; nor was it that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the holy place year by year with blood not his own. Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now ONCE at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment, so Christ also, having been offered ONCE TO BEAR THE SINS OF MANY, shall appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him. (Heb. 9:24-28)

"By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ ONCE FOR ALL. (Heb. 10:10)

"but He, having offered ONE SACRIFICE FOR SINS FOR ALL TIME, sat down at the right hand of God," (Heb. 10:12)

"For by ONE OFFERING He has perfected FOR ALL TIME those who are sanctified. (Heb. 10:14)

"He then says, 'And their sins and their lawless deed I will remember no more.' Now where there is forgiveness of these things, THERE IS NO LONGER ANY OFFERING FOR SIN. (Heb. 10:17-18)

"For Christ also died for sins ONCE FOR ALL, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God..." (1 Pet. 3:18)

"It is finished." (John 19:30)

"...they again crucify to themselves the Son of God, and put Him to open shame." (Heb. 6:6)