

Grace Episcopal Church

Read the Bible in a Year – **Bible in Time** – Chronological Bible

Reflection Class: **Sunday, 27 September 2015**; 9:10 am – 9:40 am, Grace Parish Hall.

Thoughts, Reflections, Insights, Questions of readings to date: Days 263 - 269

**Prayer:**

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lectionary page.org | Book of Common Prayer | Proper 20

**Readings**

Day 263 | Sunday | September 20 | Nehemiah 8, 9, 10 | Nehemiah - Celebration of the Tabernacles, the people confess their sins, You are blessed, O Lord; retelling of the salvation history; an agreement is written and signed by many; vow not to give daughters to foreigners, other promises.

Day 264 | Monday | September 21 | Nehemiah 11, 12; 1 Chronicles 9 | Nehemiah - leader and volunteers chosen by lot to live in Jerusalem; listing of returning exiles and priests and Levites.

Day 265 | Tuesday | September 22 | Nehemiah 12, 13, 5; Malachi 1, 2 | Nehemiah - dedication and sanctifying the new wall; provisions for Temple worship; trip back to see the king; returns; Malachi - God: I love you, warning to priests about unworthy sacrifices; the lips of priest should preserve knowledge.

Day 266 | Wednesday | September 23 | Malachi 2, 3, 4; Joel 1, 2, 3 | Malachi - be faithful to the Lord, judgement is coming; repent; God is merciful; judgement is coming; Joel - mourning over a plague; Locust invade like an army; call to repentance; restoration in God; promise of the spirit of God to all in those days; everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved; judgement against the nations; blessings for God's people; The Lord dwells in Zion!

*New Testament Readings:*

Day 267 | Thursday | September 24 | Mark 1; Luke 1, 3; John 1; Matthew 1 | The beginning of the Good News about Jesus; Luke writes an account of Jesus; Gospel of John starts with the Logos - the Word coming to dwell with us. John the Baptist is NOT the messiah; the Son knows God; Matthew's genealogy starts with Abraham and goes to Joseph/Mary telling of the salvation history; Luke's genealogy starts with Joseph and goes through the complete history to end with God; John the Baptist birth is fore told as with Jesus. Gabriel shows up to Zechariah - high priest - he will have a child, Z says he is old, Gab says you will not be able to speak until it happen. Wife, Elizabeth, hides; Gab shows up with Mary and gives her the news and she says Yes.

Day 268 | Friday | September 25 | Luke 1, 2; Matthew 1 | Two remarkable women share their pregnancies; Mary sings praise to God; birth of John the Baptist; Zechariah's prophecy of his son; Birth of Jesus about 6 months after John; Luke 2:1-40; birth where parents, livestock, shepherds, angels are witnesses; Jesus is presented to the Temple on the 8th day; Simeon sees the child and prophecies as does Anna.

Day 269 | Saturday | September 26 | Matthew 2, 3; Luke 2, 3; Mark 1 | Three wise guys show up to see Jesus - King Herod and the existing power structure is afraid; star gazing; Joseph takes family to Egypt after talking with angel; Herod dies and Joe's family returns to Nazareth; older child Jesus speaks in the Temple and continues to be a good kid; John, not known for his style of dress, grows up and announces the coming of the Messiah; Luke notes the specific time in history when John starts his ministry; John uses a baptism of repentance to make ready the way of the Lord; Jesus is baptized - John is stunned and asks to be baptized by Jesus - Jesus says no, let's do it this way. 9/27/15 on 9/26/15