

The One Year Bible Reading For January 9:

Genesis 20:1-22:24:

In Genesis 22 we read of Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his one and only son, even though the promises God made to him were to be fulfilled through Isaac. Abraham knew that if God had him go through with slaying his son, God would bring him back to life. This obedience demonstrated that Abraham had truly believed in God and had been declared righteous (Gen. 15:6; Rom. 4:3, 22-23; Gal. 3:6; James 2:23). This was not only an illustration looking forward to God the Father's giving of His own Son (Rom. 8:32), but also serves as a paradigm for us. True saving faith should work its way out in obedience (see also Rom. 1:5; Gal. 5:6).

Matthew 7:15-29:

This is also one of the key truths found in today's New Testament reading. As Jesus closes out the Sermon on the Mount (Mt. 5-7), He teaches: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven...Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a a wise man who built his house on the rock." (Matthew 7:21-24)

So, we must ask a question: "Am I walking in line with the gospel which means I am seeking to obey God?"