

THE ONE YEAR BIBLE Reading For September 19:

Isaiah 30:12-33:9:

In Isaiah 30-31 the overarching theme is that Judah is not to trust in themselves, in their own plans for salvation (which included turning to Egypt for help), they are to trust in the Lord, and the Lord will save them.

In chapter 32 we read that the ultimate salvation, the ultimate hope for God's people is a "king [who] will reign in righteousness," in other words, the messianic King, Jesus Christ. All that the LORD is doing now is not only saving those who truly trust in Him, but it is also preparing for and moving toward the ultimate salvation in and through the reign of this coming king!

Chapter 33 reveals that those who have been oppressing and destroying the people of God (Assyria) will themselves face the judgment of God. Here God makes it clear that He has not abandoned His true people, His remnant; instead, He has a good, just, and redemptive purpose in using the sin of Assyria to purge Judah. Once this is complete, He will save Judah and judge Assyria. The message of the latter prophets (Isaiah-Malachi) is that though God judges sin, nevertheless, there is always hope for the remnant since God will carry out His covenant faithfulness and His work of redemption. This is the same approach the Father took toward the Son, the true Israel, to pour out wrath for sin and then to give victory through and to demonstrate His glory by the resurrection.

Galatians 5:1-12:

In these twelve verses Paul teaches that for the believer under the New Covenant, Jesus Christ has freed him from the yoke of slavery that consisted of being under a Law Covenant that could not be kept and which resulted only in condemnation. So, trust in Christ, the only way of salvation and do not return to an obsolete system or covenant. We must remember that things like circumcision are not what matters. Instead, the faith in Christ we have which is a gift and which produces love in us by which we carry out the will of God, this is what matters (6). This is why Paul rebukes those teachers among the Galatians who are calling them to return to the Law Covenant and circumcision (7-12).

We must understand that part of the concern of the false teachers among the Galatians, as well as the Galatians now themselves is this: How can trusting in Jesus Christ be sufficient for a person to keep the will of God, to be pleasing to Him when it comes to ethics? Paul introduces the answer to that in verse 6 (Christ produces in us a change life) and then expounds upon it in the rest of chapter 5 and through chapter 6 as he defends true ethics and how they emerge from the gospel.

Psalms 63:1-11:

In these eleven verses David records his experience in the wilderness, away from the tabernacle where God's more realized presence was and where He could be approached in the fullest sense under the Old Covenant. That proximity to God's presence represented fullest communion with God. David expresses how intensely He longed for God and the satisfaction he has in communion with His creator and savior! As we read

this psalm, our prayer should be: “O God, give me the intense desire for and satisfaction in You which David had. May I seek your presence continually and draw near to you!”
(Psalm 105:4; James 4:8)

Proverbs 23:22:

Once again we are reminded of the fifth commandment, how important it is to listen to and to honor our parents who are in our life to guide us and show us the way of wisdom.