

First Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church  
Rev. Andre' J. Osborne, Pastor-Teacher



## LENT 2019

Lent is observed by Christians in preparation for Easter. It is 40 weekdays from Ash Wednesday until Easter. This solemn religious observance in the Christian liturgical calendar begins this year on March 6, Ash Wednesday, and ends about 6 weeks later on April 18, 2019 before Easter Sunday. The Lenten season is a time of preparation of the believer for Easter through prayer and fasting.

### Article of Faith

#### IV. The Way of Salvation.

We believe that the Scriptures teach that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God; who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven; and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is in every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Savior.

**March 6 2019**

**Lent: Let Your Hearts Be Broken**

Scripture Reading --- **Joel 2:12-14**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD announces to his people, "Return to me with all your heart. There is still time. Do not eat any food. Weep and mourn."

<sup>13</sup>Don't just tear your clothes to show how sad you are. Let your hearts be broken. Return to the LORD your God. He is gracious. He is tender and kind. He is slow to get angry. He is full of love. He won't bring his judgment. He won't destroy you.

<sup>14</sup>Who knows? He might turn toward you and not bring his judgment. He might even give you his blessing. Then you can bring grain offerings and drink offerings to the LORD your God.

Thoughts for Meditation

How do we let our hearts be broken? According to Jeremiah 31:19, man must have a broken and contrite heart for true repentance. We must know our lost condition. In Roman 3:22 we are given the way for becoming right with God. It states, "We are made right with God by putting our faith in Jesus Christ."

Repentance is that change whereby the soul turns from sin and experiences true hatred of it; faith is that change whereby the soul turns to Christ and experiences supreme attachment to Him. Both turns involve the total personality – reason (mind), will, and actions (emotions).

**March 7 2019**

**Lent: A Time for Fasting**

Scripture Reading **Matthew 6: 16-18**

<sup>16</sup>"When you go without eating, do not look gloomy like those who only pretend to be holy. They make their faces look very sad. They want to show people they are fasting. What I'm about to tell you is true. They have received their complete reward. <sup>17</sup>But when you go without eating, put olive oil on your head. Wash your face. <sup>18</sup>Then others will not know that you are fasting. Only your Father, who can't be seen, will know it. Your Father will reward you, because he sees what you do secretly.

## Thoughts for Meditation

It is said that fasting is a way to cleanse one's soul and petition the Lord with requests of prayers. In Ezra 8:21, 23 and 31 a fast was proclaimed that people might humble themselves before God, to seek from Him a straight way for themselves, their children, and all their goods.

In their Crosswalk.com blog on the subject, Suzanne Niles and Wendy Simpson Little give [5 Ways Fasting Can Change Your Life](#):

1. Fasting and prayer can help us hear from God.
2. Fasting and prayer can reveal our hidden sin.
3. Fasting and prayer can strengthen intimacy with God.
4. Fasting and prayer can teach us to pray with right motives.
5. Fasting and prayer can build our faith.



## March 8 - 9, 2019 Meditate on Sunday School Lesson for March 10, 2019

**Title: "A Costly Call: Counting the Cost" - Text: Mark 1:16-20; Luke 14:25-33**  
**Devotional Reading: Philippians 3:7-16**

## March 11 2019      **Lent: A Time to be Transformed into the image of Christ**

Scripture Reading      **Philippians 3:10-11**

<sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ better. Yes, I want to know the power that raised him from the dead. I want to join him in his sufferings. I want to become like him by sharing in his death. <sup>11</sup>Then by God's grace I will rise from the dead.

## Thoughts for Meditation

The Epistle of Paul to the Philippians is one of the Prison Epistles. You might think that someone in prison was already suffering. The results of sharing in Christ's sufferings means to be daily transformed into his likeness. This brings us into a deeper, more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. Just as Jesus Christ died for our sins on the cross, to share in His righteousness, we must die more and more to sin in our daily lives.

Christ provides us with his perfect righteousness by faith so that we might know him and the power of his resurrection.

**March 12, 2019**

**Lent: To Come Under the Lordship of Christ**

Scripture Reading

**1 Peter 5:6**

<sup>6</sup> So make yourselves humble. Put yourselves under God's mighty hand. Then he will honor you at the right time. <sup>7</sup> Turn all your worries over to him. He cares about you.

Thoughts for Meditation

1<sup>st</sup> Peter is a book that gives encouragement for those who suffer. Christians are not called to reform the social order but to exhibit true goodness within it, because carrying out one's responsibilities toward society in obedience to God's will is understood as an act of Christian worship. In James 4:10 we are told to, "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up". Matthew 23:12 tells us that, "He that exalts himself shall be abased; but he that humbles himself shall be exalted." So much is said concerning our attitudes towards ourselves, which is reflected in our attitudes towards others. There is wisdom in putting our lives under the lordship of Christ.

**March 13, 2019**

**Jesus Is Baptized and Tempted**

Scripture Reading

**Mark 1:9-13**

<sup>9</sup> At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee. John baptized Jesus in the Jordan River. <sup>10</sup> Jesus was coming up out of the water. Just then he saw heaven being torn open. Jesus saw the Holy Spirit coming down on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> A voice spoke to him from heaven. It said, "You are my Son, and I love you. I am very pleased with you."

<sup>12</sup> At once the Holy Spirit sent Jesus out into the desert. <sup>13</sup> He was in the desert 40 days. There Satan tempted him. The wild animals didn't harm Jesus. Angels took care of him.

Thoughts for Meditation

Why is this baptism of Jesus so significant? Jesus was without sin. Therefore, he didn't need to be baptized into repentance. Why was Jesus baptized? It was not because He needed cleansing from sin, because Jesus was sinless, as John himself understood (Matthew 3:14). Instead, Jesus was baptized in keeping with His entire mission on earth: to identify with sinful man.

. Jesus didn't have to be baptized. He also didn't have to die on a cross in our place. He did both things to express His solidarity with fallen man.

We learn why Jesus was tempted in Hebrews 2:17-18, “Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted”. As God, Jesus did not know temptation or sufferings, but as a man He experienced the same temptations and sufferings as we do—and yet He did not sin.



## **March 14 - 16, 2019 Meditate on Sunday School Lesson for March 17, 2019**

**Title: “Calling the Lost: Lost and Found” - Text: Luke 15  
Devotional Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16**

**March 18, 2019**

**Jesus Preaches the Good News**

**Scripture Reading**

**Mark 1:14-15**

<sup>14</sup> After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee. He preached the good news of God. <sup>15</sup> “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Turn away from your sins and believe the good news!”

**Thoughts for Meditation**

It’s often written in the New Testament to repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand. Jesus was a preacher-teacher, and He brought the message of God's rule on earth, though not in the manner that was popularly expected or desired. Most Jews wanted a political kingdom that would replace the oppressive occupation of the Romans.

Contrary to the expectations of most Jews in His day, Jesus brought a kingdom of love, not conquest; of grace, not law; of humility, not pride; for all men, not only the Jews; to be received voluntarily by man, not imposed by force.

**March 19, 2019**

**How to fast**

**Scripture Reading**

**Isaiah 58:6-7**

“Here is the way I want you to fast. “Set free those who are held by chains without any reason. Untie the ropes that hold people as slaves. Set free those who are crushed. Break every evil chain. <sup>7</sup> Share your food with hungry people. Provide homeless people with a place to stay. Give naked people clothes to wear. Provide for the needs of your own family.

### Thoughts for Meditation

This scripture gives us the character and blessings of true worship. To please God, we must begin by getting right with our brothers and sisters. Stop oppressing others, and reach out to help others. Jesus once said that what we do to the least we do unto Him. Getting right with God includes doing loving things for other people.

**March 20, 2019**

## Jesus’ Appearance Is Changed



### Scripture Reading

**Mark 9:2-10**

<sup>2</sup> After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him. He led them up a high mountain. They were all alone. There in front of them his appearance was changed. <sup>3</sup> His clothes became so white they shone. They were whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. <sup>4</sup> Elijah and Moses appeared in front of Jesus and his disciples. The two of them were talking with Jesus.

<sup>5</sup> Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters. One will be for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>6</sup> Peter didn’t really know what to say, because they were so afraid. <sup>7</sup> Then a cloud appeared and covered

them. A voice came from the cloud. It said, “This is my Son, and I love him. Listen to him!” <sup>8</sup> They looked around. Suddenly they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus. <sup>9</sup> They came down the mountain. On the way down, Jesus ordered them not to tell anyone what they had seen. He told them to wait until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. <sup>10</sup> So they kept the matter to themselves. But they asked each other what “rising from the dead” meant.

### Thoughts for Meditation

I've held many reasons why Elijah and Moses appeared with Jesus. One was that Moses represented those who die and go to glory, and Elijah represented those who are caught up to heaven without death. Another was Moses represented the law and Elijah the prophets. According to Luke 9:31, Elijah and Moses were interested in the outworking of God's plan that through Jesus would be accomplished in Jerusalem.

March 20, 2019

Turn Away From Sin or Die

**Scripture Reading**

**Luke 13:1-5**

**13** Some people who were there at that time told Jesus about certain Galileans. Pilate had mixed their blood with their sacrifices. **2** Jesus said, "These people from Galilee suffered greatly. Do you think they were worse sinners than all the other Galileans? **3** I tell you, no! But unless you turn away from your sins, you will all die too. **4** Or what about the 18 people in Siloam? They died when the tower fell on them. Do you think they were guiltier than all the others living in Jerusalem? **5** I tell you, no! But unless you turn away from your sins, you will all die too."

**Thoughts for Meditation**

I'm sure that every Christian has been told that "all have sinned and come short of the Glory of God." I've also been told that no one with unrepented sin can enter into Heaven. It means that we all may die at any time, so repentance must be a top priority. Those who died in both of these instances in Luke 13 did not think they would die soon, but they did, and we presume that most of them were not ready. How can we be assured that when we die, we will immediately be with the Lord?

The answer is given in Romans 10: 9-13. If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved: God's righteousness is not gained by works (as Paul made plain in Romans 10:4-8). Instead, we gain it by confessing and believing in the person and work of Jesus Christ.



**March 21-23, 2019 Meditate on Sunday School Lesson for March 24, 2019**

**Title: "Calling to Salvation: Finding Acceptance" - Text: Luke 19:1-10**  
**Devotional Reading: 1 Chronicles 16:8-13, 23-27**

**March 25, 2019**

**People Will Die Because of Their Own Sins**

Scripture Reading

**Ezekiel 18:21**

<sup>21</sup> "But suppose a sinful person turns away from all the sins they have committed. And they obey all my rules. They do what is fair and right. Then you can be sure they will live. They will not die. <sup>22</sup> None of the sins they have committed will be held against them. Because of the godly things they have done, they will live. <sup>23</sup> When sinful people die, it does not give me any joy," announces the LORD and King. "But when they turn away from their sins and live, that makes me very happy.

<sup>24</sup> "Suppose a godly person stops doing what is right. And they sin. They do the same evil things a sinful person does. They do things I hate. Then they will not live. I will not remember any of the right things they have done. They have not been faithful to me. They have also committed many other sins. So they are guilty. They will die.

**Thoughts for Meditation**

People Will Die Because of Their Own Sins. The wages of sin is death.

**March 26, 2019**

**Jesus Prays for His Disciples**

Scripture Reading

**John 17:13-19**

<sup>13</sup> "I am coming to you now. But I say these things while I am still in the world. I say them so that those you gave me can have the same joy that I have. <sup>14</sup> I have given them your word. The world has hated them. That's because they are not part of the world any more than I am. <sup>15</sup> I do not pray that you will take them out of the world. I pray that you will keep them safe from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to it. <sup>17</sup> Use the truth to make them holy. Your word is truth. <sup>18</sup> You sent me into the world. In the same way, I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> I make myself holy for them so that they too can be made holy by the truth.

**Thoughts for Meditation**



Prayer helps us to strengthen our relationship with God. It gives us power to withstand temptation. It helps us to know God's will for our lives. Prayer is also a very strong weapon to be used in Spiritual Warfare.

God's purpose is to multiply joy in our lives, not to subtract it. The world, the flesh, and the devil would tell us something different, but God wants joy fulfilled in our lives. There are many reasons why we show pray continually.

**March 27, 2019**

## **Mary Pours Perfume on Jesus at Bethany**

**Scripture Reading**

**John 12: 1-11**

<sup>1</sup> It was six days before the Passover Feast. Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived. Lazarus was the one Jesus had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> A dinner was given at Bethany to honor Jesus. Martha served the food. Lazarus was among the people at the table with Jesus. <sup>3</sup> Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard. It was an expensive perfume. She poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the sweet smell of the perfume.

<sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot didn't like what Mary did. He was one of Jesus' disciples. Later he was going to hand Jesus over to his enemies. Judas said, <sup>5</sup> "Why wasn't this perfume sold? Why wasn't the money given to poor people? It was worth a year's pay." <sup>6</sup> He didn't say this because he cared about the poor. He said it because he was a thief. Judas was in charge of the money bag. He used to help himself to what was in it.

<sup>7</sup> "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "The perfume was meant for the day I am buried. <sup>8</sup> You will always have the poor among you. But you won't always have me."

<sup>9</sup> Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there, so they came. But they did not come only because of Jesus. They also came to see Lazarus. After all, Jesus had raised him from the dead. <sup>10</sup> So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus too. <sup>11</sup> Because of Lazarus, many of the Jews were starting to follow Jesus. They were believing in him.

**Thoughts for Meditation**

This passage brings to mind the song “Give of your best to the Master.” Mary’s gift was remarkably *humble*. When a guest entered the home, usually the guest’s feet were washed with water and the guest’s head was anointed with a dab of oil or perfume. Here, Mary used this precious ointment and **anointed the feet of Jesus**. She considered her precious ointment only good enough for His feet. “To attend to the feet was the task of the lowliest slave. Thus, Mary’s action denoted great humility as well as great devotion.”

**March 26, 2019**

**Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King**

Scripture Reading

**John 12:12-19**

<sup>12</sup> The next day the large crowd that had come for the feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> So they took branches from palm trees and went out to meet him. They shouted,

“Hosanna! ” “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Psalm 118:25,26)

“Blessed is the king of Israel!” <sup>14</sup> Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it. This is just as it is written in Scripture. It says, <sup>15</sup> “City of Zion, do not be afraid. See, your king is coming. He is sitting on a donkey’s colt.” (Zechariah 9:9)

<sup>16</sup> At first, Jesus’ disciples did not understand all this. They realized it only after he had received glory. Then they realized that these things had been written about him. They realized that these things had been done to him.

<sup>17</sup> A crowd had been with Jesus when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead. So they continued to tell everyone about what had happened. <sup>18</sup> Many people went out to meet him. They had heard that he had done this sign. <sup>19</sup> So the Pharisees said to one another, “This isn’t getting us anywhere. Look how the whole world is following him!”

**Thoughts for Meditation**

How have you made Jesus your Savior, Lord, and King?

**March 27, 2019**

## **Jesus Tells About His Coming Death**

### **Scripture Reading**

**John 12:20-36**

<sup>20</sup> There were some Greeks among the people who went up to worship during the feast. <sup>21</sup> They came to ask Philip for a favor. Philip was from Bethsaida in Galilee. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup> Philip went to tell Andrew. Then Andrew and Philip told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, "The time has come for the Son of Man to receive glory. <sup>24</sup> What I'm about to tell you is true. Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only one seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup> Anyone who loves their life will lose it. But anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it and have eternal life. <sup>26</sup> Anyone who serves me must follow me. And where I am, my servant will also be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

<sup>27</sup> "My soul is troubled. What should I say? 'Father, keep me from having to go through with this'? No. This is the very reason I have come to this point in my life. <sup>28</sup> Father, bring glory to your name!"

Then a voice came from heaven. It said, "I have brought glory to my name. I will bring glory to it again." <sup>29</sup> The crowd there heard the voice. Some said it was thunder. Others said an angel had spoken to Jesus.

<sup>30</sup> Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. <sup>31</sup> Now it is time for the world to be judged. Now the prince of this world will be thrown out. <sup>32</sup> And I am going to be lifted up from the earth. When I am, I will bring all people to myself." <sup>33</sup> He said this to show them how he was going to die.

<sup>34</sup> The crowd spoke up. "The Law tells us that the Messiah will remain forever," they said. "So how can you say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this 'Son of Man'?"

<sup>35</sup> Then Jesus told them, "You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light. Do this before darkness catches up with you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. <sup>36</sup> While you have the light, believe in it. Then you can become children of light." When Jesus had finished speaking, he left and hid from them.

### **Thoughts for Meditation**

Why did Jesus sacrifice himself for us? The bible teaches that without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin.

### **Article of Faith**

## **V. Justification.**

We believe the Scriptures teach that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him is justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.



## **March 29-30, 2019 Meditate on Sunday School Lesson for March 31, 2019**

**Title: "Called to Discipleship: Purposeful Following" - Text: Matthew 4:12-22**  
**Devotional Reading: Psalm 91**

## **April 1, 2019      Some Jews Believe and Some Don't**

### **Scripture Reading**

**John 12:37-41**

<sup>37</sup> Jesus had performed so many signs in front of them. But they still would not believe in him. <sup>38</sup> This happened as Isaiah the prophet had said it would. He had said,

"Lord, who has believed what we've been saying? Who has seen the Lord's saving power?" ([Isaiah 53:1](#))

<sup>39</sup> For this reason, they could not believe. As Isaiah says in another place,

<sup>40</sup> "The Lord has blinded their eyes. He has closed their minds. So they can't see with their eyes. They can't understand with their minds. They can't turn to the Lord. If they could, he would heal them." ([Isaiah 6:10](#)) <sup>41</sup> Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory and spoke about him.

### **Thoughts for Meditation**

Have you ever wondered that with all the miracles and wonders Jesus performed why people still doubt? John is quoting from Isaiah, who prophesied these truths in the Old Testament. What did Isaiah mean when he said they see with eyes, but can't understand with their minds? To believe is a decision. God will strengthen us in our decision, whether *to believe in Jesus or not*. Remember, We walk by faith not by sight.

## **April 2, 2019                      Some Jews Believe and Some Don't**

### **Scripture Reading**

### **John 12: 42-49**

<sup>42</sup> At the same time that Jesus did those signs, many of the Jewish leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees, they would not openly admit they believed. They were afraid they would be thrown out of the synagogue. <sup>43</sup> They loved praise from people more than praise from God.

<sup>44</sup> Then Jesus cried out, "Whoever believes in me does not believe in me only. They also believe in the one who sent me. <sup>45</sup> The one who looks at me sees the one who sent me. <sup>46</sup> I have come into the world to be its light. So no one who believes in me will stay in darkness.

<sup>47</sup> "I don't judge a person who hears my words but does not obey them. I didn't come to judge the world. I came to save the world. <sup>48</sup> But there is a judge for anyone who does not accept me and my words. These words I have spoken will judge them on the last day. <sup>49</sup> I did not speak on my own. The Father who sent me commanded me to say all that I have said. <sup>50</sup> I know that his command leads to eternal life. So, everything I say is just what the Father has told me to say."

### **Thoughts for Meditation**

After Jesus had finished predicting his coming death, He gives one of the strongest "evangelistic" appeals to be found in the gospel of John urging the crowd to have faith in himself. What did Jesus mean when he said, "If you believe in the Father, you also believe in me?"

## **April 3, 2019                      Towns That Do Not Turn Away From Sin**

## Scripture Reading

## Matthew 11:20-24

<sup>20</sup> Jesus began to speak against the towns where he had done most of his miracles. The people there had not turned away from their sins. So, he said, <sup>21</sup> “How terrible it will be for you, Chorazin! How terrible for you, Bethsaida! Suppose the miracles done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon. They would have turned away from their sins long ago. They would have put on clothes for mourning. They would have sat down in ashes. <sup>22</sup> But I tell you this. On judgment day it will be easier for Tyre and Sidon than for you. <sup>23</sup> And what about you, Capernaum? Will you be lifted to the heavens? No! You will go down to the place of the dead. Suppose the miracles done in you had been done in Sodom. It would still be here today. <sup>24</sup> But I tell you this. On judgment day it will be easier for Sodom than for you.”

## Thoughts for Meditation

What do you think of when you hear the phrase, “to whom much is given, much is required?” The scribes and Pharisees had also witnessed the many miracles that Jesus had done. Yet, because they had a pride of self-importance, the scribes and Pharisees did not believe. Christ knew that their hearts were more bitter and hardened against his miracles and doctrines, than those of Tyre and Sidon would have been if they had witnessed the same miracles. How strong is your faith in Jesus Christ?



## April 4-6, 2019 Meditate on Sunday School Lesson for April 7, 2019

**Title: “Call and Mission: Summoned for Service” - Text: Matthew 10**

**Devotional Reading: Matthew 15:21-28**

## April 8, 2019 Promises of God

### Scripture Reading

### Psalms 91:1-7

Whoever rests in the shadow of the Most High God will be kept safe by the Mighty One. <sup>2</sup> I will say about the LORD, “He is my place of safety. He is like a fort to me. He is my God. I trust in him.” <sup>3</sup> He will certainly save you from hidden traps and from deadly

sickness. <sup>4</sup> He will cover you with his wings.

Under the feathers of his wings you will find safety. He is faithful. He will keep you safe like a shield or a tower. <sup>5</sup> You won't have to be afraid of the terrors that come during the night. You won't have to fear the arrows that come at you during the day.

<sup>6</sup> You won't have to be afraid of the sickness that attacks in the darkness.

You won't have to fear the plague that destroys at noon.

<sup>7</sup> A thousand may fall dead at your side. Ten thousand may fall near your right hand. But no harm will come to you.

### **Thoughts for Meditation**

The entire chapter of **Psalm 91** is filled with the goodness and power of God. Great reminders that He faithfully works on behalf of those who love Him. It gives us confidence that if we rest in God's shadow, we will never endure the full agony of our difficulties.

## **April 9, 2019 Promises of God**

### **Scripture Reading**

### **Psalm 91 8-16**

<sup>8</sup> You will see with your own eyes how God punishes sinful people. <sup>9</sup> Suppose you say, "The LORD is the one who keeps me safe." Suppose you let the Most High God be like a home to you. <sup>10</sup> Then no harm will come to you. No terrible plague will come near your tent. <sup>11</sup> The LORD will command his angels to take good care of you. <sup>12</sup> They will lift you up in their hands. Then you won't trip over a stone. <sup>13</sup> You will walk on lions and cobras. You will crush mighty lions and poisonous snakes. <sup>14</sup> The LORD says, "I will save the one who loves me. I will keep him safe, because he trusts in me. <sup>15</sup> He will call out to me, and I will answer him. I will be with him in times of trouble. I will save him and honor him. <sup>16</sup> I will give him a long and full life. I will save him."

### **Thoughts for Meditation**

As you read the passage above list all the reasons God gives of why we do not have to fear. Then rejoice.

**April 10, 2019**

## **What Makes People “Unclean”?**

Scripture Reading

**Mark 7:1-9**

**7** The Pharisees gathered around Jesus. So did some of the teachers of the law. All of them had come from Jerusalem. **2** They saw some of his disciples eating food with “unclean” hands. That means they were not washed. **3** The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands to make them “clean.” That’s what the elders teach. **4** When they come from the market, they do not eat unless they wash. And they follow many other teachings. For example, they wash cups, pitchers, and kettles in a special way.

**5** So the Pharisees and the teachers of the law questioned Jesus. “Why don’t your disciples live by what the elders teach?” they asked. “Why do they eat their food with ‘unclean’ hands?”

**6** He replied, “Isaiah was right. He prophesied about you people who pretend to be good. He said,

“ ‘These people honor me by what they say. But their hearts are far away from me.

**7** Their worship doesn’t mean anything to me. They teach nothing but human rules.’ (Isaiah 29:13)

**8** You have let go of God’s commands. And you are holding on to teachings that people have made up.” **9** Jesus continued speaking, “You have a fine way of setting aside God’s commands! You do this so you can follow your own teachings.

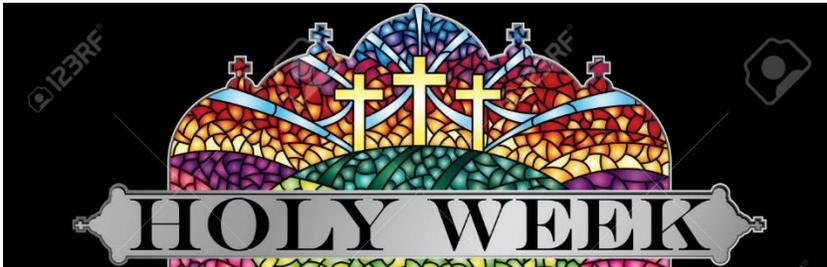
Thoughts for Meditation

This delegation of religious leaders came **from Jerusalem** to evaluate the ministry of Jesus. Another delegation was mentioned in Mark 3:22, and they pronounced a harsh, condemning judgment against Jesus. It seems that they had already made up in their minds that Jesus was not the Messiah, so none of His words or miracles would convince them. They evaluated Jesus against the measure of their religious customs and traditions. In other words, they looked the part. God is concerned about state of your heart.



**April 11-13, 2019 Meditate on Sunday School Lesson  
for April 14, 2019**

**Title: "Called to Remember" - Text: Matthew 26:1-13  
Devotional Reading: Acts 2:29-39**



**April 15-19, 2019**

Mary Holmes Page, Christian Education Ministry

**Assignment**

**Jesus Christ Possesses the Attributes of God**

If Jesus Christ is really God, then whatever is true of God must also be true of Him. For example, we all know that God is Almighty. If Jesus is God, then Jesus must also be \_\_\_\_\_. Below are listed some of the attributes of God. MATCH the verses which show that Jesus possessed these divine attributes:

- |          |  |               |
|----------|--|---------------|
| 1. _____ | <b>Omniscient (knowing all things)</b>                     | A. 1 John 2:1 |
| 2. _____ | <b>Omnipresent (always present and everywhere present)</b> | B. John 6:64  |
| 3. _____ | <b>Omnipotent (almighty and all-powerful)</b>              | C. Micah 5:2  |

4. \_\_\_\_\_ **Eternal**
5. \_\_\_\_\_ **Unchangeable**
6. \_\_\_\_\_ **Holy**
7. \_\_\_\_\_ **Righteous**
8. \_\_\_\_\_ **Faithful**

- D. Luke 1:35
- E. Matthew 28:20
- F. Revelation 19:11
- G. Hebrews 13:8
- H. Revelation 1:8

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