

Readings from Matthew chapter 11—February 28th-March 6th, 2021

²⁵ At that time Jesus answered and said, “I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from *the* wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes. ²⁶ Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. ²⁷ All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and *the one* to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him*. ²⁸ Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light.”

Sunday: What does v. 25 tell us about the relationship between Jesus and the Father? **Pray** that the Walton (N.Y.) RPC might find open doors as they reach out to the people of Walton and surrounding communities. **Give thanks** for the new work in Santiago and Batuco, Chile; **pray** for Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking ministers to be raised up in the RPCNA for work in Central and South America.

Monday: Why does Jesus thank the Father for hiding the truth from some people? **Pray** for the college students in Lisbon (N.Y.) RPC, that God would help them to learn well during a strange school year and that they would grow spiritually as well as academically. **Pray** for the Christian FM radio station in South Sudan.

Tuesday: Read and reflect upon the following: Deuteronomy 29:4; Isaiah 6:9-10; 29:10-14; 44:18; John 12:37-41. **Pray** that the members of Clarinda (Ia.) RPC would trust God wholeheartedly. **Pray** that Pastor Frank and others will have safety in their travels this week to Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, meeting in Kokomo, Ind.

Wednesday: According to v. 27, can you know God or love God without knowing Christ? Give thanks with Oswego (N.Y.) RPC for their new pastor, Gabriel Wingfield. **Pray** that the heart of the premier in the Australian state of Victoria would be softened toward the church and the gospel.

Thursday: What does it mean to come to Jesus? Have you really and truly come to Jesus? **Give thanks** for three babies born in the Terre Haute (Ind.) RPC in 2020, as well as for some adherents becoming members. **Pray** that the decisions made by the elders (the presbyters) at Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery would be made in the fear of God and not the fear of man.

Friday: What does v. 29 tell us about Jesus? **Pray** for encouragement and health for members with chronic illness at Sparta (Ill.) RPC. **Pray** for our ministerial intern, T.J. Pattillo, as he is to be examined this evening in order to be taken under care of Presbytery as a candidate. **Continue to pray** that the Lord Jesus would be honored in all the actions of Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery.

Saturday: Why is it that Jesus' yoke is easy and His burden light? **Pray** that Second RPC (Indianapolis, Ind.) would minister creatively among one another and in outreach amid many pandemic restrictions. **Pray** for the conclusion today of the meeting of Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, and for safety for those traveling home. **Pray** for tomorrow's service at ARPC, that many folks would attend and be edified.

Atlanta
Reformed
Presbyterian
Church

The Lord's Day
February 28, 2021

Meeting every week at
574 Western Avenue
(corner of Western and Walnut Street)
Atlanta, Georgia
Worship at 3:30 PM

Pastor Frank J. Smith, Ph.D., D.D.

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Proclaiming the Kingship
of Jesus Christ

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions

The Call to Worship John 14:1-3

*The Invocation

*Psalm 149 “O Praise the Lord! O Sing Aloud a New Song”

Scripture Reading Acts 2:1-21

*Psalm 51E “From My Sins Hide Thou Thy Face”

Pastoral Prayer

*Psalm 104D “How Many Works, Lord, In Wisdom You’ve Made!”

Scripture Text I Thessalonians 5:19-22

The Sermon “Sensitive to the Spirit” (Part 1)

*Prayer

*Psalm 143B “Lord, Let My Prayer Prevail”

*Benediction

*Psalm 150B “Praise the Lord! Praise God in His Sanctuary”

* Congregation will please stand.

We are so glad that you could join us today! Please be sure to return next week and bring a friend.

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions & Answers

“As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.”—Psalm 42:1. “Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways, and sinners shall be converted unto Thee.”—Psalm 51:13.

Q. 60. How is the sabbath to be sanctified? A. The sabbath is to be sanctified by a holy resting all that day, even from such worldly employments and recreations as are lawful on other days; and spending the whole time in the public and private exercises of God's worship, except so much as is to be taken up in the works of necessity and mercy.

Q. 61. What is forbidden in the fourth commandment? A. The fourth commandment forbiddeth the omission or careless performance of the duties required, and the profaning the day by idleness, or doing that which is in itself sinful, or by unnecessary thoughts, words or works, about our worldly employments or recreations.

For your convenience, a tithe box is located at the back.

I Thessalonians 5:19 “Sensitive to the Spirit” (Part 1)
Paul and company exhort the Thessalonians to be Spiritually sensitive.

I. Quench Not the Spirit

A. Quench

1. *sbennumi*

a. Eph. 6:16; Matt. 12:20; 25:8; Mk. 9:44-46, 48; Hebrews 11:34

b. Meaning

(1) Often refers to fire

(2) Indicative of a serious, we could say explosive, situation

(3) Indicates snuffing out/putting out the flame

2. Not

B. The Spirit

1. The Third Person of the Godhead

2. But, if He is God, how can He be “quenched”?

3. He is the One whose workings are described in fiery terms

a. Matthew 3:11-12; Acts 2:3

b. Meaning: He enlightens; He enlivens; He purifies

4. We quench the Spirit by . . .

a. Withdrawing the “fuel”: not stirring up our spirits to be in tune

b. Dousing the “flame”: Carnal lusting; Indulging affections; Minding only earthly things; Sloth; Disobedience; Jealousy; Consulting false gods; Neglecting the Sabbath; Rejecting the gospel; Turning aside from opportunities to hear the Word preached; Being embittered

Observations

- A. Those that have more gifts and graces are more responsible
- B. For the believer, the Spirit cannot be totally withdrawn
- C. Unbelievers may experience a total loss of the Spirit’s striving

D. The exhortation here is with respect to others, too

Application

- A. In what way(s) are you quenching the Spirit
- B. In all of those ways . . .
 - 1. Repent
 - 2. Rely upon the Spirit Himself for the grace not to quench Him
 - 3. Put your trust in Christ