

Readings from Matthew chapter 12—March 28th-April 3rd, 2021

²² Then one was brought to Him who was demon-possessed, blind and mute; and He healed him, so that the blind and mute man both spoke and saw. ²³ And all the multitudes were amazed and said, “Could this be the Son of David?” ²⁴ Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, “This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons.” ²⁵ But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. ²⁶ If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? ²⁷ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges. ²⁸ But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²⁹ Or how can one enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house. ³⁰ He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad.

Sunday: **What does it mean to be demon-possessed? Give thanks** for God’s provision for, and through, White Lake (N.Y.) RPC’s food ministry, Shepherd’s Pantry. **Give thanks** for how well Girls Group is going at Airdrie (Scotland) RPC and the three new girls that have joined in this term; **pray** that this group would be a spiritual encouragement to the young girls who attend.

Monday: **How do we know that Jesus is the Son of David? [See Matthew 1:1-17; 21:7-11.] Pray** that the Spirit would fill Sparta (Ill.) RPC with hope, joy, and life in concrete ways and that they would share that joy freely with family, friends, and community. **Pray** for the new Christians at North Edinburgh (Scotland) RPC.

Tuesday: **Beelzebub means “lord of flies”; to whom does this term refer? Praise the Lord** for His providence in blessing Russell (Ont.) RPC with several new babies; **pray** that the young parents would seek to raise their little ones in the grace and knowledge of the Lord. **Pray** for Claudia Gonzalez and her surgery Thursday.

Wednesday: **How does v. 25 prove that Jesus is God? Pray** that God would use the members at Clarinda (Iowa) RPC to be lights for Christ in the world.

Thursday: **How does Jesus prove that the kingdom of God has come upon them? Please pray** with Hetherton (Mich.) RPC for travel safety, including to and from church activities, during this season of icy roads. **Pray** for the growth and encouragement of Birmingham (Ala.) RPC.

Friday: **What does v. 29 tell us about the defeat of Satan by Jesus? In what ways today do we see Jesus plundering Satan’s kingdom? Pray** that Satan’s kingdom would be plundered and destroyed. **Pray** for wisdom and unity for Stillwater (Okla.) RPC as they consider options for continuing to meet in person as a congregation during this time of changing COVID restrictions.

Saturday: **In light of v. 30, is it possible to be neutral about Jesus? Pray** for a

larger meeting space for Dallas (Tex.) RPC; **pray also** for their new evangelistic efforts in McKinney. **Pray** for the service tomorrow at Atlanta RPC.

Atlanta

Reformed

Presbyterian

Church

The Lord’s Day

March 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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https://atlanta-rpc.org
(770)241-3946

Proclaiming the Kingship
of Jesus Christ

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions

The Call to Worship

Psalm 96:1

*The Invocation

*Psalm 5B

“O Jehovah, Hear My Words”

Scripture Reading

Romans 12

*Psalm 51D

“God, Be Merciful to Me”

Pastoral Prayer

*Psalm 51E

“From My Sins Hide Thou Thy Face”

Scripture Text

I Thessalonians 5:19-24

The Sermon

“Total Sanctification” (Part 1)

*Prayer

*Psalm 51C

“No Sacrifice Dost Thou Desire”

*Benediction

*Psalm 72C [stanzas 11-12]

“Now Blessed Be Our God Alone”

* 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

“**Quench not the Spirit.**”—II Thessalonians 5:19.

“**Thanks be unto God for His indescribable gift!**”—II Corinthians 9:15.

Q. 35. What is sanctification? A. Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

Q. 63. Which is the fifth commandment? A. The fifth commandment is, Honor thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Q. 64. What is required in the fifth commandment? A. The fifth commandment requireth the preserving the honor, and performing the duties, belonging to every one in their several places and relations, as superiors, inferiors or equals.

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

I Thessalonians 5:23-24 “Total Sanctification” (Part 1)

Paul and company pray for the Thessalonians’ total sanctification.

I. Sanctification

A. Sanctifier: “and the very God of peace”

1. And the very God

2. Of peace—Rom. 15:33; 16:20; II Cor. 13:11; Phil. 4:9; II Thess. 3:16; Heb. 13:20

a. This phrase is often associated with blessing

b. Peace (shalom) is one of the best blessings to have

c. We get peace in our triumph over the world and all opposition

d. Peace between God and ourselves, via the cross

B. Process: “sanctify you wholly”

1. *hagiazō*—in aorist [past] tense

- a. therefore, looking at sanctification from the perspective of the end in view: regeneration leading to glorification
 - b. here, the definiteness of sanctification is the point
2. Wholly
- a. *holoteleis* (*holos* [whole] + *telos* [end])
 - b. points to all of the degrees of sanctification, and the whole man
 - c. Romans 12:1—all of the person

Application

- A. Get to know the Holy Spirit
- B. Make sure that you are being sanctified
 - 1. Without holiness, no man will see the Lord
 - 2. Crave for that purity
 - 3. Are you a sheep or a goat?