

Readings from Matthew chapter 12—April 11th-17th, 2021

³⁸ Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, “Teacher, we want to see a sign from You.” ³⁹ But He answered and said to them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. ⁴¹ The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here. ⁴² The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here.”

Sunday: Who were the scribes? Praise God for the development of two sister churches (College Hill Reformed and Hope Community RPC) out of College Hill RPC (Beaver Falls, Pa.); **pray** for God’s kingdom to grow through both locations. **Pray** for the new couples at Glasgow (Scotland) RPC.

Monday: Who were the Pharisees? What was Jesus’ view of them and why? **Pray** for increased worship attendance and fellowship at Seattle (Wash.) RPC. **Give thanks** that the RP church in The Gambia was able to purchase property recently.

Tuesday: Why did Jesus say that an evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign? How is His teaching in this regard relevant to our world today? **Pray** for a return to in-person worship at the local nursing home near Christ Church (Floyd, N.Y.). **Pray** for the monthly book study at Stornoway (Scotland) RPC.

Wednesday: Why did Jesus refer to the sign of Jonah? What is the relationship between what happened to Jonah and his preaching? **Pray** with Los Angeles (Calif.) RPC for former pastor Nathan Eshelman and family in their new pastoral charge in Orlando, Fla.; **ask the Lord** to bless their ministry there as He has in L.A. **Pray** for the Covenanter Bookstore in Northern Ireland.

Thursday: What happened when Jonah preached to Nineveh? [Read Jonah 3.] **Pray** for the eight new families that have been worshipping at Shelter RPC (Edmonton, Alberta), that God would give grace to them to love Him and learn as they get acquainted with Presbyterian doctrines; **pray** for more families, including deacons and elders. **Pray** for Frankston (Australia) RPC and its outreach efforts.

Friday: Who was the queen of the South? [Read I Kings 10:1-13.] **Pray** that Providence RPC (Pittsburgh, Pa.) would have a greater presence in their community.

Pray for Rev. and Mrs. Peter Dundee as they move to Clare (Northern Ireland) RPC.

Saturday: Who was Solomon? If Jesus is descended from Solomon, how is He greater than Solomon? **Pray** for two families in the Columbus (Ind.) RPC awaiting court decisions on child custody; **pray** that the children involved may be

given to homes who will love them and teach them to love the Lord Jesus. **Pray** for the service tomorrow at Atlanta RPC, that many would attend and be brought to Christ.

Atlanta

Reformed

Presbyterian

Church

The Lord’s Day

April 11, 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
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Proclaiming the Kingship
of Jesus Christ

Welcome and Announcements
Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions
The Call to Worship Psalm 95:3-5
*The Invocation
*Psalm 106A “O Praise the Lord! O Thank the Lord!”
Scripture Reading Exodus 17; Luke 22:39-46
*Psalm 6 “In Anger, Lord, Rebuke Me Not”
Pastoral Prayer
*Psalm 22F “My God, My God”
Scripture Text I Thessalonians 5:25-28
The Sermon “Duties of Holiness” (Part 1)
*Prayer
*Psalm 13 “How Long Wilt Thou Forget Me, Lord?”
*Benediction

*Psalm 134B “Bless the Lord, All Servants of the Lord”
* 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

“Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.”—I Peter 2:17. “Honor thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.”—Exodus 20:12.

Q. 65. What is forbidden in the fifth commandment? A. The fifth commandment forbiddeth the neglecting of, or doing anything against, the honor and duty which belongeth to every one in their several places and relations.

Q. 66. What is the reason annexed to the fifth commandment? A. The reason annexed to the fifth commandment is a promise of long life and prosperity (as far as it shall serve for God's glory and their own good) to all such as keep this commandment.

Q. 98. What is prayer? A. Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.

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

I Thessalonians 5:25-27 “Duties of Holiness” (Part 1)
Paul and others exhort the Thessalonians regarding duties of holiness.

- I. Plea for Prayer
A. Brethren—it implies a family relationship, and love
B. Pray for us
1. This is a common term in Paul's writings
2. Why would Paul and company ask for prayer for themselves?
a. A humble acknowledgement of weakness (II Cor. 11:29)
b. The sufferings and hardships which he was experiencing
c. Knowledge of the efficacy of prayer: James 5; Exodus 17:8-16
d. Willingness to be identified as one of the “brethren”
e. Because more people should pray for their ministers
3. For what would prayer be requested?

- a. For strength for their tasks
- b. For protection
- c. For boldness in proclaiming the gospel
- d. For wisdom in ministry
- e. For blessing upon the ministry
- f. For encouragement

Application

- A. Be sure to engage in prayer every day
- B. Be sure to pray for your leaders

1. There is a duty to pray for others

2. Don't be selfish in your prayers

C. Join in the agony of prayer

1. Paul: II Corinthians 12:9; Galatians 4:19; Colossians 1:9; 2:1-7

2. This was David's experience: Psalm 13

3. Do so based on Jesus' experience in Gethsemane: Luke 22:39ff