

Grace Episcopal Church

Read the Bible in a Year – Bible in Time – Chronological Bible

Reflection Class: Sunday, 27 December 2015; 9:10 am – 9:40 am, Grace Parish Hall.

Thoughts, Reflections, Insights, Questions of readings to date - Day 354 - 361

Prayer: Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings

December 20

Telling of salvation story through great people of faith - Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Issac, Jacob, Moses, Rahab, the prophets, endure hardship as they did, listen to God and hear the Lord.

December 21

Keep loving each other, show hospitality to the stranger, other instructions, blessings; Peter writes around 64 AD right before his death to the Church scattered- hope of eternal life, holy living.

December 22

Christians are in exile, suffering, but they are chosen people, royal priesthood, God's own who brought us out of darkness into light; once they were no people but now God's; no matter your role in life - live to God's glory.

December 23

Peter begins final greetings in 1 Peter. 2 Peter starts and uses some of Jude and thoughts on false teachers. Gain faith -> goodness -> knowledge -> self control -> perseverance -> godliness -> mutual affection -> love; to gain these you gain Christ; read the bible; watch for fake teachers; remember that the day of the Lord is coming; be patient; look forward to this; keep steadfast in faith in Jesus.

December 24

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life; God is light; do not sin; You are children of God - people of the light; watch for false teachers; See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.

December 25

Test what you hear and know about Christ; Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love; abide in God's love; faith conquers all; I write this that you might have eternal life; I was overjoyed to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we have been commanded by the Father; watch; Beloved, do not imitate what is evil but imitate what is good. Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God.

December 26

Jude - probably written the same time as 2 Peter; of angels and evil; casting down; imprisoning; remain faithful to the Gospel of Jesus; a song of praise; Revelation of John- A revelation of Jesus via an angel to John; blessed is anyone who can read its images for meaning; Jesus says Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive for ever and ever; Begins a lot of coded messages ... Angel talks of various towns – Ephesus – good so far but have forgotten the love of God given to you, Smyrna – even though you are poor you are rich in all things, Pergamum – evil and you put a stumbling block before the people of Israel, Thyatira -I know your works—your love, faith, service, and patient endurance,