

# Pilgrim Way Devotional Companion for February

## February 1 (Day 32)

Morning Readings- Genesis 33, Mark 4  
Evening Readings- Esther 9,10; Romans 4

Give me a man who says this one thing I do, and not those fifty things I dabble in.- D. L. Moody

### Be Present At Our Table, Lord, John Cennick L.M.

1 Be present at our table, Lord;  
Be here and everywhere adored;  
Thy creatures bless, and grant that we  
May feast in paradise with Thee.

2 We thank Thee, Lord, for this our  
food,  
For life and health and every good;

By Thine own hand may we be fed;  
Give us each day our daily bread.

3 We thank Thee, Lord, for this our  
good,  
But more because of Jesus' blood;  
Let manna to our souls be giv'n,  
The Bread of Life sent down from  
Heav'n.

We ought not, said Luther, to measure, censure, and understand the Scriptures according to our own natural sense and reason, but we ought diligently by prayer to meditate therein, and to search after the same. The devil and temptations also do give occasion unto us somewhat to learn and understand the Scriptures by experience and practice. Without trials and temptations we should never understand anything thereof; no, not although we diligently read and heard the same. The Holy Ghost must be the only master and tutor to teach us therein, and let youth and scholars not be ashamed to learn of this tutor. When I find myself in temptation, then I quickly lay hold and fasten on some text in the Bible which Christ Jesus layeth before me, namely, that he died for me, from whence I have and receive comfort. (Martin Luther)

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## February 2 (Day 33)

Morning Readings- Genesis 34, Mark 5  
Evening Readings- Job 1; Romans 5

We can stand affliction better than we can prosperity, for in prosperity we forget God.- D. L. Moody

### The Gospel the Power of God to Salvation, Isaac Watts, Romans. 1:16; 1 Corinthians 1:18 24. C.M.

1 What shall the dying sinner do  
That seeks relief for all his woe?

Where shall the guilty conscience find  
Ease for the torment of the mind?

2 How shall we get our crimes forgiven,  
Or form our natures fit for heaven?  
Can souls all o'er defil'd with sin  
Make their own powers and passions  
clean?

3 In vain we search, in vain we try,  
Till Jesus bring his gospel nigh;  
'Tis there such power and glory dwell  
As saves rebellious souls from hell.

4 This is the pillar of our hope

That bears our fainting spirits up;  
We read the grace, we trust the word,  
And find salvation in the Lord.

5 Let men or angels dig the mines  
Where nature's golden treasure shines,  
Brought near the doctrine of the cross  
All nature's gold appears but dross.

6 Should vile blasphemers with disdain  
Pronounce the truths of Jesus vain,  
I'll meet the scandal and the shame,  
And sing and triumph in his Name.

God is easy to live with. Satan's first attack upon the human race was his sly effort to destroy Eve's confidence in the kindness of God. Unfortunately for her and for us he succeeded too well. From that day, men have had a false conception of God, and it is exactly this that has cut out from under them the ground of righteousness and driven them to reckless and destructive living.

Nothing twists and deforms the soul more than a low or unworthy conception of God. Certain sects, such as the Pharisees, while they held that God was stern and austere, yet managed to maintain a fairly high level of external morality; but their righteousness was only outward. Instinctively we try to be like our God, and if He is conceived to be stern and exacting, so will we ourselves be. The truth is that God is the most winsome of all beings and His service one of unspeakable pleasure.

The fellowship of God is delightful beyond all telling. He communes with His redeemed ones in an easy, uninhibited fellowship that is restful and healing to the soul. He remembers our frame and knows that we are dust. He may sometimes chasten us, it is true, but even this He does with a smile, the proud, tender smile of a Father who is bursting with pleasure over an imperfect but promising son who is coming every day to look more and more like the One whose child he is." (A.W. Tozer, *The Root of the Righteous*, pp. 13-16).

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### February 3 (Day 34)

Morning Readings- Genesis 35,36, Mark 6

Evening Readings- Job 2; Romans 6

When we become too glib in prayer we are most surely talking to ourselves.- A. W. Tozer

#### This Day in Christian History

1832 Birth of William H. Doane, American Baptist hymn writer and businessman. Doane also composed the hymns "To God Be the Glory," "Precious Name," "I Am Thine," "More Love to Thee," "Near the Cross," and "Rescue."

**Psalm 16:4, Isaac Watts, C. M.**  
**Support and counsel from God without merit.**

1 Save me, O Lord, from every foe;  
In thee my trust I place,  
Tho' all the good that I can do  
Can ne'er deserve thy grace.

2 Yet if my God prolong my breath  
The saints may profit by't;  
The saints, the glory of the earth,  
The men of my delight.

3 Let heathens to their idols haste,  
And worship wood or stone;  
But my delightful lot is cast  
Where the true God is known.

4 His hand provides my constant food,  
He fills my daily cup;  
Much am I pleas'd with present good,  
But more rejoice in hope.

5 God is my portion and my joy,  
His counsels are my light;  
He gives me sweet advice by day,  
And gentle hints by night.

6 My soul would all her thoughts  
approve  
To his all-seeing eye;  
Not death, nor hell my hope shall move,  
While such a friend is nigh.

*"Tell me ... where Thou feedest, where Thou makest Thy flock to rest at noon."* Song of Solomon 1:7

THESE words express the desire of the believer after Christ, and his longing for present communion with Him. Where dost Thou feed Thy flock? In Thy house? I will go, if I may find Thee there. In private prayer? Then I will pray without ceasing. In the Word? Then I will read it diligently. In thine ordinances? Then I will walk in them with all my heart. Tell me where Thou feedest, for wherever Thou standest as the Shepherd, there will I lie down as a sheep; for none but Thyself can supply my need. I cannot be satisfied to be apart from Thee. My soul hungers and thirsts for the refreshment of Thy presence. "Where dost Thou make Thy flock to rest at noon?" for whether at dawn or at noon, my only rest must be where Thou art and Thy beloved flock. My soul's rest must be a grace-given rest, and can only be found in Thee. Where is the shadow of that rock? Why should I not repose beneath it? "Why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions?" Thou hast companions--why should I not be one? Satan tells me I am unworthy; but I always was unworthy, and yet Thou hast long loved me; and therefore my unworthiness cannot be a bar to my having fellowship with Thee now. It is true I am weak in faith, and prone to fall, but my very feebleness is the reason why I should always be where Thou feedest Thy flock, that I may be strengthened, and preserved in safety beside the still waters. Why should I turn aside? There is no reason why I should, but there are a thousand reasons why I should not, for Jesus beckons me to come. If He withdrew Himself a little, it is but to make me prize His presence more. Now that I am grieved and distressed at being away from Him, He will lead me yet again to that sheltered nook where the lambs of His fold are sheltered from the burning sun.  
(Charles Spurgeon)

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## February 4 (Day 35)

Morning Readings- Genesis 37, Mark 7

Evening Readings- Job 3; Romans 7

One great power of sin is that it blinds men so that they do not recognize its true character.- Andrew Murray

### Come Thou Almighty King, Charles Wesley (6.4)

1 Come, thou almighty King,  
Help us thy name to sing;  
Help us to praise:  
Father all glorious,  
O'er all victorious,  
Come and reign over us,  
Ancient of Days!

2 Jesus, our Lord, arise,  
Scatter our enemies,  
And make them fall!  
Let thy almighty aid  
Our sure defence be made,  
Our souls on thee be stayed;  
Lord, hear our call!

3 Come, thou Incarnate Word,  
Gird on thy mighty sword;  
Our prayers attend;  
Come, and thy people bless,

And give thy word success;  
Spirit of holiness,  
On us descend!

4 Come, holy Comforter,  
Thy sacred witness bear  
In this glad hour!  
Thou, who almighty art,  
Now rule in every heart,  
And ne'er from us depart,  
Spirit of power!

5 To the great One-in-Three  
Eternal praises be  
Hence evermore!  
His sovereign majesty  
May we in glory see,  
And to eternity  
Love and adore!

Wrong ideas about God are not only the fountain from which the polluted waters of idolatry flow; they are themselves idolatrous. The idolater simply imagines things about God and acts as if they were true.

Perverted notions about God soon rot the religion in which they appear. The long career of Israel demonstrates this clearly enough, and the history of the Church confirms it. So necessary to the Church is a lofty concept of God that when that concept in any measure declines, the Church with her worship and her moral standards decline along with it. The first step down for any church is taken when it surrenders its high opinion of God.

Before the Church goes into eclipse anywhere there must first be a corrupting of her simple basic theology. She simply gets a wrong answer to the question, 'What is God like?' and goes on from there. Though she may continue to cling to a sound nominal creed, her practical working creed has become false. The masses of her adherents come to believe that God is different from what He actually is, and that is heresy of the most insidious and deadly kind. (A.W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*)

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**February 5 (Day 36)**

Morning Readings- Genesis 38, Mark 8

Evening Readings- Job 4; Romans 8

As the excellence of steel is strength, and the excellence of art is beauty, so the excellence of mankind is moral character.- A. W. Tozer

This Day in Christian History

1631 English-born clergyman Roger Williams arrives in America. He soon begins questioning Massachusetts' religious policies that fuse church and state matters. He was banished to Rhode Island five years later.

1705 Death of Philipp Jakob Spener, German Lutheran churchman and founder of Pietism. Spener introduced reforms in church discipline, use of the catechism, and the training of youth, and his methods became the foundation of confirmation. Spener's *Pia Desideria* encourages private devotions among serious Christian believers.

1837- Birth of D. L. Moody, one of the most prominent evangelists in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Children of the Heavenly King, John Cennick, 7777**

1 Children of the heavenly King,  
As ye journey, sweetly sing;  
Sing your Savior's worthy praise,  
Glorious in His works and ways

There your seat is now prepared—  
There your kingdom and reward.

2 We are traveling home to God,  
In the way the fathers trod;  
They are happy now, and we  
Soon their happiness shall see.

5 Lift your eyes, ye sons of light,  
Zion's city is in sight:  
There our endless home shall be,  
There our Lord we soon shall see.

3 O, ye banished seed, be glad!  
Christ our Advocate is made;  
Us to save, our flesh assumes—  
Brother to our souls becomes.

6 Fear not, brethren; joyful stand  
On the borders of your land;  
Jesus Christ, your Father's Son,  
Bids you undismayed go on.

4 Shout, ye little flock, and blest,  
You on Jesus' throne shall rest:

7 Lord, obedient we would go,  
Gladly leaving all below;  
Only Thou our Leader be;  
And we will still follow Thee.

Sound Bible exposition is an imperative must in the Church of the Living God. Without it no church can be a New Testament church in any strict meaning of that term. But exposition may be carried on in such a way as to leave the hearers devoid of any true spiritual nourishment whatsoever. For it is not mere words that nourish the soul, but God Himself, and unless and until the hearers find God in personal experience they are

not the better for having heard the truth. The Bible is not an end in itself, but a means to bring men to an intimate and satisfying knowledge of God, that they may enter into Him, that they may delight in His Presence, may taste and know the inner sweetness of the very God Himself in the core and center of their hearts. (A.W. Tozer, *The Pursuit of God* p. 9-10).

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### February 6 (Day 37)

Morning Readings- Genesis 39, Mark 9

Evening Readings- Job 5; Romans 9

What makes the Dead Sea dead? Because it is all the time receiving, never giving out anything. Why is it that many Christians are cold? Because they are all the time receiving, never giving out anything.- D. L. Moody

### **The Atoning Work Is Done, Thomas Kelly, 666688 (Can Be Sung to "Rejoice The Lord is King" or "Arise My Soul, Arise")**

1 THE atoning work is done,  
The Victim's blood is shed;  
And Jesus now is gone  
His people's cause to plead:  
He lives in heaven their great High  
Priest,  
And bears their names upon His breast.

2 For us His blood was shed:  
For us He lives above:  
Secured in Him our Head,  
God's purposes of love.

God's righteousness throws wide the  
door,  
Whence mercy yields her boundless  
store.

3 And though awhile He be  
Hid from the eyes of men,  
His people look to see  
Their great High Priest again.  
In brightest glory He will come,  
And take His waiting people home.

*Arise ye, and depart.* Micah 2:10

THE hour is approaching when the message will come to us, as it comes to all-- "Arise, and go forth from the home in which thou hast dwelt, from the city in which thou hast done thy business, from thy family, from thy friends. Arise, and take thy last journey." And what know we of the journey? And what know we of the country to which we are bound? A little we have read thereof, and somewhat has been revealed to us by the Spirit; but how little do we know of the realms of the future! We know that there is a black and stormy river called "Death." God bids us cross it, promising to be with us. And, after death, what cometh? What wonder-world will open upon our astonished sight? What scene of glory will be unfolded to our view? No traveler has ever returned to tell. But we know enough of the heavenly land to make us welcome our summons thither with joy and gladness. The journey of death may be dark, but we may go forth on it fearlessly, knowing that God is with us as we walk through the gloomy valley, and therefore we need fear no evil. We shall be departing from all we have known and loved here, but we shall be going to our Father's house--to our Father's home, where Jesus

is—to that royal "city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." This shall be our last removal, to dwell forever with Him we love, in the midst of His people, in the presence of God. Christian, meditate much on heaven, it will help thee to press on, and to forget the toil of the way. This vale of tears is but the pathway to the better country; this world of woe is but the stepping-stone to a world of bliss (Charles Spurgeon).

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### February 7 (Day 38)

Morning Readings- Genesis 40, Mark 10

Evening Readings- Job 6; Romans 10

Christians mistake in supposing that, when God afflicts, he ceases to love; affliction is his pruning-knife: he would rather have the branches of his vine bleed than be unfruitful. He prunes us, that we may bring forth the peaceable fruits of righteousness."- Thomas Watson

### **Lo, He Comes From Heaven Descending John Cennick 8.7.8.7.8.7 (Can be sung to the tune "Angels From The Realms of Glory")**

Lo! He comes with clouds descending,  
Once for favored sinners slain;  
Thousand thousand saints attending,  
Swell the triumph of His train:  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
God appears on earth to reign.

2 Every eye shall now behold Him  
Robed in dreadful majesty;  
Those who set at naught and sold Him,  
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,  
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing  
Shall the true Messiah see.

3 Every island, sea, and mountain,  
Heav'n and earth, shall flee away;  
All who hate Him must, confounded,  
Hear the trump proclaim the day:  
Come to judgment! Come to judgment!  
Come to judgment! Come away!

4 Now redemption, long expected,  
See in solemn pomp appear;  
All His saints, by man rejected,

Now shall meet Him in the air:  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
See the day of God appear!

5 Answer Thine own bride and Spirit,  
Hasten, Lord, the general doom!  
The new Heav'n and earth t'inherit,  
Take Thy pining exiles home:  
All creation, all creation  
Travails! groans! and bids Thee come!

6 The dear tokens of His passion  
Still His dazzling body bears;  
Cause of endless exultation  
To His ransomed worshippers;  
With what rapture, with what rapture  
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

7 Yea, Amen! let all adore Thee,  
High on Thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the power and glory,  
Claim the kingdom for Thine own;  
O come quickly! O come quickly!  
Everlasting God, come down!

*But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done.- Luke 24:21*

Every fact that the disciples stated was right, but the conclusions they drew from those facts were wrong. Anything that has even a hint of dejection spiritually is always wrong. If I am depressed or burdened, I am to blame, not God or anyone else. Dejection stems from one of two sources— I have either satisfied a lust or I have not had it satisfied. In either case, dejection is the result. *Lust* means “I must have it at once.” Spiritual lust causes me to demand an answer from God, instead of seeking God Himself who gives the answer. What have I been hoping or trusting God would do? Is today “the third day” and He has still not done what I expected? Am I therefore justified in being dejected and in blaming God? Whenever we insist that God should give us an answer to prayer we are off track. The purpose of prayer is that we get ahold of God, not of the answer. It is impossible to be well physically and to be dejected, because dejection is a sign of sickness. This is also true spiritually. Dejection spiritually is wrong, and we are always to blame for it.

We look for visions from heaven and for earth-shaking events to see God’s power. Even the fact that we are dejected is proof that we do this. Yet we never realize that all the time God is at work in our everyday events and in the people around us. If we will only obey, and do the task that He has placed closest to us, we will see Him. One of the most amazing revelations of God comes to us when we learn that it is in the everyday things of life that we realize the magnificent deity of Jesus Christ. (Oswald Chambers)

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### **February 8 (Day 39)**

Morning Readings- Genesis 41, Mark 11

Evening Readings- Job 7; Romans 11

No vessel can be made of gold without fire; so it is impossible that we can be made "vessels of honour," unless we are melted and refined in the furnace of affliction.  
Thomas Watson.

#### This Day in Christian History

1693 The College of William and Mary is founded in Williamsburg, Virginia, for the purpose of educating Anglican clergymen. It is the second-oldest institution of higher learning in America, after Harvard.

1851- Death of Scottish preachers James Alexander Haldane, who founded the Society for Propagating the Gospel at Home to counter the indifference of the Church of Scotland to home missions.

#### **Thou Dear Redeemer, Dying Lamb, John Cennick, C.M.**

1 Thou dear Redeemer, dying Lamb,                      Is half so sweet to me,  
I love to hear of Thee;  
No music like Thy charming Name,

2 O let me ever hear Thy voice  
In mercy to me speak!  
And in my Priest, will I rejoice,  
My great Melchizedek,

3 My Jesus shall be still my theme,  
While in this world I stay;

I'll sing my Jesus' lovely Name  
When all things else decay,

4 When I appear in yonder cloud,  
With all Thy favored throng,  
Then I will sing more sweet, more loud,  
And Christ shall be my song,

*The God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly ... —1 Thessalonians 5:23*

When we pray, asking God to sanctify us, are we prepared to measure up to what that really means? We take the word *sanctification* much too lightly. Are we prepared to pay the cost of sanctification? The cost will be a deep restriction of all our earthly concerns, and an extensive cultivation of all our godly concerns. Sanctification means to be intensely focused on God's point of view. It means to secure and to keep all the strength of our body, soul, and spirit for God's purpose alone. Are we really prepared for God to perform in us everything for which He separated us? And after He has done His work, are we then prepared to separate ourselves to God just as Jesus did? "For their sakes I sanctify Myself . . ." (John 17:19). The reason some of us have not entered into the experience of sanctification is that we have not realized the meaning of sanctification from God's perspective. Sanctification means being made one with Jesus so that the nature that controlled Him will control us. Are we really prepared for what that will cost? It will cost absolutely everything in us which is not of God.

Are we prepared to be caught up into the full meaning of Paul's prayer in this verse? Are we prepared to say, "Lord, make me, a sinner saved by grace, as holy as You can"? Jesus prayed that we might be one with Him, just as He is one with the Father (see John 17:21-23). The resounding evidence of the Holy Spirit in a person's life is the unmistakable family likeness to Jesus Christ, and the freedom from everything which is not like Him. Are we prepared to set ourselves apart for the Holy Spirit's work in us? (Oswald Chambers)

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### February 9 (Day 40)

Morning Readings- Genesis 42, Mark 12

Evening Readings- Job 8; Romans 12

Christians don't tell lies they just go to church and sing them.- A. W. Tozer

### Psalm 18:3. 30 31 34 35 46, Isaac Watts, L. M. Rejoicing in God; or, Salvation and triumph.

1 Just are thy ways, and true thy word,  
Great rock of my secure abode;  
Who is a God beside the Lord?  
Or where's a refuge like our God?

2 'Tis he that girds me with his might,  
Gives me his holy sword to wield;  
And while with sin and hell I fight,  
Spreads his salvation for my shield.

3 He lives (and blessed be my rock!)

The God of my salvation lives,  
The dark designs of hell are broke;  
Sweet is the peace my Father gives.

4 Before the scoffers of the age,  
I will exalt my Father's name,  
Nor tremble at their mighty rage,

But meet reproach and bear the shame.

5 To David and his royal seed  
Thy grace for ever shall extend;  
Thy love to saints in Christ their head  
Knows not a limit, nor an end.

Pseudo faith always arranges a way out to serve in case God fails. Real faith knows only one way and gladly allows itself to be stripped of any second way or makeshift substitutes. For true faith, it is either God or total collapse. And not since Adam first stood up on earth has God failed a single man or woman who trusted Him.

The man of pseudo faith will fight for his verbal creed but refuse flatly to allow himself to get into a predicament where his future must depend upon that creed being true. He always provides himself with secondary ways of escape so he will have a way out if the roof caves in.

The faith of Paul or Luther was a revolutionizing thing. It upset the whole life of the individual and made him into another person altogether. It laid hold on the life and brought it under obedience to Christ. It took up its cross and followed along after Jesus with no intention of going back. It said goodbye to its old friends as certainly as Elijah when he stepped into the fiery chariot and went away in the whirlwind. It had a finality about it ... It realigned all life's actions and brought them into accord with the will of God.

What we need very badly these days is a company of Christians who are prepared to trust God as completely now, as they must do at the last day. For each of us the time is surely coming when we shall have nothing but God! Health and wealth and friends and hiding places will all be swept away and we shall have only God. To the man of pseudo faith that is a terrifying thought, but to real faith it is one of the most comforting thoughts the heart can entertain. It would be a tragedy indeed to come to the place where we have no other but God and find that we had not really been trusting God during the days of our earthly sojourn. It would be better to invite God now to remove every false trust, to disengage our hearts from all secret hiding places and to bring us out into the open where we can discover for ourselves whether we actually trust Him. This is a harsh cure for our troubles, it is a sure one! Gentler cures may be too weak to do the work. And time is running out on us. (A.W. Tozer)

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### **February 10 (Day 41)**

Morning Readings- Genesis 43, Mark 13  
Evening Readings- Job 9; Romans 13

Now, I find a great many people who want some evidence that they have accepted the Son of God. My friends, if you want any evidence, take God's word for it. You can't find better evidence than that. You know that when the Angel Gabriel came down and told Zachariah he should have a son he wanted a further token than the angel's word. He asked Gabriel for it and he answered, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of the

Lord." He had never been doubted, and he thundered out this to Zachariah. But he wanted a further token, and Gabriel said, "You shall have a token: you shall be dumb till your son shall be given you."- D. L. Moody

#### This Day in Christian History

1859 Birth of Jonathan Goforth, Canadian Presbyterian missionary to Honan and Changte, China.

### **The Savior Hides His Face, John Newton 6686**

1 THE Saviour hides his face!  
My spirit thirsts to prove  
Renew'd supplies of pardoning grace,  
And never-fading love.

2 The favour'd souls who know  
What glories shine in him,  
Pant for his presence as the roe  
Pants for the living stream!

3 What trifles tease me now!  
They swarm like summer flies,  
They cleave to everything I do,  
And swim before my eyes.

4 How dull the Sabbath-day,  
Without the Sabbath's Lord!  
How toilsome then to sing and pray,

And wait upon the word!

5 Of all the truths I hear,  
How few delight my taste!  
I glean a berry here and there,  
But mourn the vintage past.

6 Yet let me (as I ought)  
Still hope to be supplied;  
No pleasure else is worth a thought,  
Nor shall I be denied.

7 Though I am but a worm,  
Unworthy of his care,  
The Lord will my desire perform,  
And grant me all my prayer.

#### Advice for a Young Lady by Samuel Rutherford

I had not time to give my advice to your daughter Grizel; you shall carry my words therefore to her. Show her now, that in respect of her tender age, she is in a manner as clean paper, ready to receive either good or ill; and that it were a sweet and glorious thing for her to give herself up to Christ, that He may write upon her His Father's name, and His own new name. And desire her to acquaint herself with the Book of God; the promises that our Lord writes upon His own, and performeth in them and for them, are contained there. I persuade you, when I think that she is in the company of such parents, and hath occasion to learn Christ, I think Christ is wooing her soul; and I pray God she may not refuse such a husband. And therefore I charge her, and beseech her by the mercies of God, by the wounds and blood of Him who died for her, by the word of truth, which she heareth, and can read, by the coming of the Son of God to judge the world, that she would fulfil your joy, and learn Christ, and walk in Christ. She shall think this the truth of God many years after this; and I will promise to myself, in respect of the beginnings that I have seen, that she shall give herself to Him that gave Himself for her. Let her begin at prayer; for if she remember her Creator in the days of her youth, He will claim kindness to her in her old age. It shall be a part of my prayers, that this may be

effectual in her, by Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly, to whose grace again I recommend you, and her, and all yours.

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## February 11 (Day 42)

Morning Readings- Genesis 44, Mark 14

Evening Readings- Job 10; Romans 14

It is scarcely possible in most places to get anyone to attend a meeting where the only attraction is God.- A. W. Tozer

### This Day in Baptist History

1717- Birth of William Williams in Cefn-y-coed Wales. A Calvinistic Methodist preacher, he wrote the well-known hymn "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" and about 900 other hymns.

1826- Birth of Alexander MacLaren in Glasgow, Scotland. He became a profound expositor and became known as the "Prince of Expository Preachers".

1915- Death of hymnwriter Fanny Crosby.

### **Precious Bible, What a Treasure! John Newton, 8.7.4 Psalm 119:50,103; Jeremiah 15:16**

1 Precious Bible! what a treasure  
Does the word of God afford!  
All I want for life or pleasure,  
Food and medicine, shield and sword,  
Is revealed  
In Jehovah's sacred word.

2 Food, to which the world's a stranger,  
Here my hungry soul enjoys;  
Of excess there is no danger;  
Though it fills, it never cloy,  
While the Spirit  
To my heart its truth applies.

3 When my faith is faint and sickly,  
Or when Satan wounds my mind,  
Cordials to revive me quickly,  
Healing medicines, here I find,  
When my Jesus  
Shines therein into my mind.

4 In the hour of dark temptation,  
Satan cannot make me yield;  
For the word of consolation  
Is to me a mighty shield,  
While Jehovah  
Gives me faith the truth to wield.

5 Vain his threats to overcome me,  
When in faith I take the sword;  
Then with ease I drive him from me;  
Satan trembles at the word,  
When my Helper  
Makes me strong in Christ my Lord.

6 Shall I envy, then, the miser,  
Doting on his golden store?  
Sure I am, or should be, wiser;  
I am rich, 'tis he is poor:  
Having Jesus,  
I have an immortal store.

I, said Luther, esteem those to be the best Preachers which teach the common people and youth most plainly and simply, without subtlety, screwed words, or enlargements. Christ taught the people by plain and simple parables. In like manner, those are the best Hearers that willingly do hear and believe God's Word simply and plainly, and although they be weak in faith, yet so long as they doubt not of the doctrine they are to be holpen forward; for God can and will bear with weakness if it be but acknowledged, and that we creep again to the Cross and pray to God for grace, and amend ourselves. (Martin Luther)

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### February 12 (Day 43)

Morning Readings- Genesis 45, Mark 15  
Evening Readings- Job 11; Romans 15

Affliction is a bitter root, but it bears sweet fruit, It yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness.- Thomas Watson.

#### This Day in Christian History

1644 Birth of Jacob Ammann, Mennonite minister from Alsace/Switzerland and founder of the Amish Mennonites.

1915 Death of Fanny Crosby, well-known hymnwriter who wrote over 8,000 hymns.

#### **The Christian Treasure, Isaac Watts, 1 Corinthians 3. 21. 8888**

1 How vast the treasure we possess!  
How rich thy bounty, King of Grace!  
This world is ours, and worlds to come  
Earth is our lodge, and heaven our  
home.

2 All things are ours, the gifts of God;  
The purchase of a Saviour's blood:  
While the good Spirit shews us how  
To use and to improve them too.

3 If peace and plenty crown my days,  
They help, me, Lord, to speak thy  
praise!

If bread of sorrows be my food,  
Those sorrows work my lasting good.

4 I would not change my blest estate  
For all the world calls good or great:  
And while my faith can keep her hold,  
I envy not the sinner's gold.

5 Father, I wait thy daily will;  
Thou shalt divide my portion still:  
Grant me on earth what seems thee  
best,  
Till death and heaven reveal the rest.

*And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die.—Exodus 20:19*

We don't consciously and deliberately disobey God— we simply don't listen to Him. God has given His commands to us, but we pay no attention to them— not because of willful disobedience, but because we do not truly love and respect Him. "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (John 14:15). Once we realize we have

constantly been showing disrespect to God, we will be filled with shame and humiliation for ignoring Him.

“Speak thou with us, . . . but let not God speak with us . . . .” We show how little love we have for God by preferring to listen to His servants rather than to Him. We like to listen to personal testimonies, but we don’t want God Himself to speak to us. Why are we so terrified for God to speak to us? It is because we know that when God speaks we must either do what He asks or tell Him we will not obey. But if it is simply one of God’s servants speaking to us, we feel obedience is optional, not imperative. We respond by saying, “Well, that’s only your own idea, even though I don’t deny that what you said is probably God’s truth.”

Am I constantly humiliating God by ignoring Him, while He lovingly continues to treat me as His child? Once I finally do hear Him, the humiliation I have heaped on Him returns to me. My response then becomes, “Lord, why was I so insensitive and obstinate?” This is always the result once we hear God. But our real delight in finally hearing Him is tempered with the shame we feel for having taken so long to do so.

(Oswald Chambers)

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### February 13 (Day 44)

Morning Readings- Genesis 46, Mark 16

Evening Readings- Job 12; Romans 16

Character in a saint means the disposition of Jesus Christ persistently manifested.-  
Oswald Chambers

### Psalm 19:2, Isaac Watts, S. M.

**God's word most excellent; or, Sincerity and watchfulness. For a Lord's-day morning.**

1 Behold the morning sun  
Begins his glorious way;  
His beams thro' all the nations run,  
And life and light convey.

2 But where the gospel comes,  
It spreads diviner light,  
It calls dead sinners from their tombs,  
And gives the blind their sight.

3 How perfect is thy word!  
And all thy judgments just!  
For ever sure thy promise, Lord,  
And men securely trust.

4 My gracious God, how plain  
Are thy directions given!

O! may I never read in vain,  
But find the path to heaven!

5 I hear thy word with love,  
And I would fain obey;  
Send thy good Spirit from above  
To guide me, lest I stray.

6 O who can ever find  
The errors of his ways?  
Yet, with a bold presumptuous mind,  
I would not dare transgress.

7 Warn me of every sin,  
Forgive my secret faults,  
And cleanse this guilty soul of mine,  
Whose crimes exceed my thoughts.

8 While with my heart and tongue  
I spread thy praise abroad,

Accept the worship and the song,  
My Saviour and my God.

The Lord of life and glory was nailed to the accursed tree. He died by the act of guilty men. We, by our sins, crucified the Son of God.

We might have expected that, in remembrance of his death, we should have been called to a long, sad, rigorous fast. Do not many men think so even today? See how they observe Good Friday, a sad, sad day to many; yet our Lord has never enjoined our keeping such a day, or bidden us to look back upon his death under such a melancholy aspect. Instead of that, having passed out from under the old covenant into the new, and resting in our risen Lord, who once was slain, we commemorate his death by a festival most joyous. It came over the Passover, which was a feast of the Jews; but unlike that feast, which was kept by unleavened bread, this feast is brimful of joy and gladness. It is composed of bread and of wine, without a trace of bitter herbs, or anything that suggests sorrow and grief. ...

The memorial of Christ's death is a festival, not a funeral; and we are to come to the table with gladsome hearts and go away from it with praises, for "after supper they sang a hymn" (Matthew 26:30, Mark 14:26) (Charles Spurgeon).

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### **February 14 (Day 45)**

Morning Readings- Genesis 47, Luke 1:1-38

Evening Readings- Job 13; 1 Corinthians 1

#### This Day in Christian History

1915- Birth of Oliver B. Greene, evangelist and director of "The Gospel Hour" radio broadcast, one of the most widespread Fundamentalist radio broadcasts ever. The program is still heard in many areas today, although Greene died in 1976.

Our true character comes out in the way we pray.- Oswald Chambers

### **Jesus, The Lord, Our Righteousness, Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, L.M.**

1 JESUS, the Lord, our righteousness!  
Our beauty Thou, our glorious dress!  
Midst flaming worlds in this arrayed,  
With joy shall we lift up the head.

2 Bold shall we stand in that great day,  
For who ought to our charge shall lay,  
While by Thy blood absolved we are  
From sin and guilt, from shame and  
fear?

3 Thus Abraham, the friend of God,  
Thus all the saints redeemed with blood,  
Saviour of sinners, Thee proclaim,  
And all their boast is in Thy name.

4 This spotless robe the same appears  
In new creation's endless years;  
No age can change its glorious hue;  
The robe of Christ is ever new.

5 Till we behold Thee on Thy throne,

In Thee we boast, in Thee alone,  
Our beauty this, our glorious dress,

Jesus the Lord, our righteousness.

The pulpit is the Thermopylae of Christendom: there the fight will be lost or won. To us ministers the maintenance of our power in the pulpit should be our great concern, we must occupy that spiritual watch-tower with our hearts and minds awake and in full vigor. It will not avail us to be laborious pastors if we are not earnest preachers.

We shall be forgiven a great many sins in the matter of pastoral visitation if the people's souls are really fed on the Sabbath-day; but fed they must be, and nothing else will make up for it.

The failures of most ministers who drift down the stream may be traced to inefficiency in the pulpit. The chief business of a captain is to know how to handle his vessel, nothing can compensate for deficiency there, and so our pulpits must be our main care, or all will go awry. (Charles Spurgeon).

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### February 15 (Day 46)

Morning Readings- Genesis 48, Luke 1:39-80

Evening Readings- Job 14; 1 Corinthians 2

The more the diamond is cut, the more it sparkles; the heavier the cross is, the heavier is the saint's crown.- Thomas Watson.

#### According to Thy Gracious Word, James Montgomery C.M.

1 According to Thy gracious word,  
In meek humility,  
This will I do, my dying Lord,  
I will remember Thee.

4 When to the cross I turn mine eyes,  
And rest on Calvary,  
O Lamb of God, my sacrifice,  
I must remember Thee;

2 Thy body, broken for my sake,  
My bread from Heaven shall be;  
The testamental cup I take,  
And thus remember Thee.

5 Remember Thee, and all Thy pains  
And all Thy love to me;  
Yea, while a breath, a pulse remains,  
Will I remember Thee.

3 Gethsemane can I forget?  
Or there Thy conflict see,  
Thine agony, and bloody sweat,  
And not remember Thee?

6 And when these failing lips grow  
dumb  
And mind and memory flee,  
When Thou shalt in Thy kingdom come,  
Jesus, remember me.

"To Him be glory both now and forever." 2 Peter 3:18

HEAVEN will be full of the ceaseless praises of Jesus. Eternity! Thine unnumbered years shall speed their everlasting course, but forever and forever, "to him be glory." Is He not a "Priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek?" "To Him be glory." Is He not King forever?--King of kings and Lord of lords, the everlasting Father? "To

Him be glory forever." Never shall His praises cease. That which was bought with blood deserves to last while immortality endures. The glory of the cross must never be eclipsed; the lustre of the grave and of the resurrection must never be dimmed. O Jesus! thou shalt be praised forever. Long as immortal spirits live--long as the Father's throne endures--forever, forever, unto Thee shall be glory. Believer, you are anticipating the time when you shall join the saints above in ascribing all glory to Jesus; but are you glorifying Him now? The apostle's words are, "To Him be glory both now and forever." Will you not this day make it your prayer? "Lord, help me to glorify Thee. I am poor; help me to glorify Thee by contentment. I am sick; help me to give Thee honor by patience. I have talents; help me to extol Thee by spending them for Thee; I have time; Lord, help me to redeem it, that I may serve Thee; I have a heart to feel; Lord, let that heart feel no love but Thine, and glow with no flame but affection for Thee; I have a head to think; Lord, help me to think of Thee and for Thee; Thou hast put me in this world for something; Lord, show me what that is, and help me to work out my life-purpose. I cannot do much; but as the widow put in her two mites, which were all her living, so, Lord, I cast my time and eternity too into Thy treasury; I am all Thine; take me, and enable me to glorify Thee now, in all that I say, in all that I do, and with all that I have." (Charles Spurgeon).

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**February 16 (Day 47)**

Morning Readings- Genesis 49, Luke 2  
 Evening Readings- Job 15; 1 Corinthians 3

Beware in your prayers, above everything else, of limiting God, not only by unbelief, but by fancying that you know what He can do.- Andrew Murray

**Grace Taught Our Wandering Feet,  
 Philip Doddridge, S.M.**

1 GRACE taught our wandering feet  
 To tread the heavenly road;  
 And new supplies each hour we meet  
 While travelling home to God.

2 'Twas grace that wrote each name  
 In life's eternal book;  
 'Twas grace that gave the spotless  
 Lamb  
 Who all our sorrows took.

3 Grace saved us from the foe,  
 Grace taught us how to pray;

And God will ne'er His grace forgo,  
 Till we have won the day.

4 May grace, free grace, inspire  
 Our souls with strength divine;  
 May every thought to God aspire,  
 And grace in service shine.

5 Grace all the work shall crown  
 Through everlasting days;  
 It lays in heaven the topmost stone,  
 And well deserves the praise.

See that your minds be deeply impressed with the nature, extent, and importance of your ministerial work, — that therein it is required of you, as ambassadors for Christ, as

stewards of the mysteries and manifold grace of God, — to be faithful; — to serve the Lord with your spirit, and with much humility in the gospel of his Son: — to testify repentance towards God, and faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ, not keeping back or shunning to declare every part of the counsel of God, or any profitable instruction, reproof, or encouragement; and not moved with any reproach, persecution, hunger, or nakedness, — to be ready not only to be bound, but to die for the name of the Lord Jesus, in order to finish your course with joy. Bearing with the infirmities of the weak, and striving together in prayer, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, and your message provided by God, and made acceptable to your hearers, you must labor with much fear and trembling, determined to know, to glory in, and to make known, nothing but Jesus Christ, and him crucified, — preaching the gospel, not with enticing words of man's wisdom, as men-pleasers, but with great plainness of speech, in demonstration of the Spirit and with power, — speaking the things which are freely given you by God, not in the words which man's wisdom teaches, but in words which the Holy Ghost teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual, — as having the mind of Christ, always triumphing in Him, — and making manifest the savor of the knowledge of him in every place, that you may be a sweet savor of Christ in them who are saved, and in them who perish; — as of sincerity, as of God, in the sight of God, speaking in Christ, and through the mercy of God, not fainting, but renouncing the hidden things of dishonesty; — not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully, or corrupting the truth, but manifesting the truth to every man's conscience, as in the sight of God; — not preaching yourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and yourselves servants to the church for his sake, always bearing about his dying, that his life may be manifested in you; — and knowing the terror of the Lord, and deeply impressed with the account which you and your hearers must give to him of your whole conduct in the day of judgment, — awed by his infinite authority, constrained and inflamed by his love, you must persuade men, beseeching them to be reconciled unto God, and making yourselves manifest to God and to their conscience, — and, as their edification requires, changing your voice, and turning yourselves every way, and becoming all things to all men, in order to gain them to Christ, — jealous over them with a godly jealousy, in order to espouse them to him as chaste virgins, — travailing in birth, till he be formed in their hearts. You must take heed to your ministry which you have received in the Lord, what you may fulfill it; — stir up the gifts which were given you, — give yourselves wholly to reading, exhortation, and doctrine; — and perseveringly take heed to yourselves and to the doctrine which you preach, that you may save yourselves and them that hear you; — watching for their souls, as they who do, and must give an account for them to God, — rightly dividing the word of truth, and giving every man his portion in due season, faithfully warning every man with tears night and day, teaching every man, particularly young ones, and laboring to present every man perfect in Christ Jesus, — and warring, not after the flesh, nor with carnal weapons, but with such as are mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds and casting down imaginations, and subduing every thought and affection to the obedience of Christ. Having him for the end of your conversation, and holding fast the form of sound words in faith in, and love to him, — not entangling yourselves with the affairs of this life, nor ashamed of the Lord, or of his cause or prisoners, but ready to endure hardships as good soldiers of Jesus Christ, and to endure all things for the

elect's sake, that they may obtain salvation with eternal glory; — ye must go forth without the camp, bearing his reproach, and, exposed as spectacles of suffering to angels and men, must not faint under your tribulations, but feed the flock of God which he has purchased with his own blood, and over which the Holy Ghost has made you overseers, — preaching the word in season and out of season, reproving, rebuking, and exhorting with all long-suffering and doctrine, — taking the oversight of your people, not by restraint, but willingly, not for filthy lucre of worldly gain, or larger stipends, but of a ready mind, — neither as being lords over God's heritage, but as examples to the flock, — exercising yourselves to have a conscience void of offense towards God and towards man, — having a good conscience, willing in all things to live honestly, — exercised to godliness, — kindly affectioned, disinterested, holy, just, and unblamable, — prudent examples of the believers in conversations [daily life], in charity, in faith and purity, — fleeing youthful lusts, and following after righteousness, peace, faith, charity, — not striving, but being gentle to all men, — in meekness, instructing them who oppose themselves, avoiding foolish and unlearned questions, and old wives' fables, — fleeing from perverse disputings and worldly mindedness, as most dangerous snares; and following after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness; — fighting the good fight of faith, and laying hold on eternal life, — keeping your trust of gospel truth and ministerial office, and, without partiality or precipitancy, committing the same to faithful men, who may be able to teach others; — and, in fine, faithfully laboring, in the Lord, to try, and confute, and censure false teachers, restore such as have been overtaken in a fault in the spirit of meekness, — and having compassion on them, to pull them out of the fire, hating even the garment spotted by the flesh, and never conniving at, or partaking with an in their sins. Who is sufficient for these things? May your sufficiency be of God; and as your days are, so may your strength be. (John Brown)

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**February 17 (Day 48)**

Morning Readings- Genesis 50, Luke 3  
 Evening Readings- Job 16,17; 1 Corinthians 4

God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supplies.- Hudson Taylor

This Day in Christian History

1889 Billy Sunday, baseball player turned preacher, makes his first appearance as an evangelist in Chicago. More than 100 million people would hear him preach in his lifetime.

**Angels From The Realm of Glory James Montgomery**

1 Angels from the realms of glory,  
 Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
 Ye who sang creation's story  
 Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

2 Shepherds, in the field abiding,  
 Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
 God with us is now residing;  
 Yonder shines the infant light:

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations;  
Ye have seen His natal star.

4 Saints, before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear;  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In His temple shall appear.

5 Sinners, wrung with true repentance,  
Doomed for guilt to endless pains,

Justice now revokes the sentence,  
Mercy calls you; break your chains.

6 Though an Infant now we view Him,  
He shall fill His Father's throne,  
Gather all the nations to Him;  
Every knee shall then bow down:

7 All creation, join in praising  
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising  
To th'eternal Three in One.

*Rise and eat—1 Kings 19:5*

The angel in this passage did not give Elijah a vision, or explain the Scriptures to him, or do anything remarkable. He simply told Elijah to do a very ordinary thing, that is, to get up and eat. If we were never depressed, we would not be alive—only material things don't suffer depression. If human beings were not capable of depression, we would have no capacity for happiness and exaltation. There are things in life that are designed to depress us; for example, things that are associated with death. Whenever you examine yourself, always take into account your capacity for depression.

When the Spirit of God comes to us, He does not give us glorious visions, but He tells us to do the most ordinary things imaginable. Depression tends to turn us away from the everyday things of God's creation. But whenever God steps in, His inspiration is to do the most natural, simple things—things we would never have imagined God was in, but as we do them we find Him there. The inspiration that comes to us in this way is an initiative against depression. But we must take the first step and do it in the inspiration of God. If, however, we do something simply to overcome our depression, we will only deepen it. But when the Spirit of God leads us instinctively to do something, the moment we do it the depression is gone. As soon as we arise and obey, we enter a higher plane of life. (Oswald Chambers)

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**February 18 (Day 49)**

Morning Readings- Exodus 1, Luke 4  
Evening Readings- Job 18; 1 Corinthians 5

Affliction is a badge of adoption; it is God's seal by which he marks his own. A holy man, suffering severely from some wounds, pointing to them, said "These are the jewels with which God decks his children."- Thomas Watson

This Day in Christian History

1546 Death of Martin Luther, German Augustinian priest and reformer. In 1517 Luther symbolically inaugurated the Protestant Reformation and remained its leader until his death. Luther also translated the Bible into German and penned the hymn "A Mighty Fortress."

1678 John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress* is published in England. Frequently imprisoned between 1660 and 1672 for preaching without a license, Bunyan used these times to collect the ideas he used in his masterpiece of Christian literature.

### **Christ Delivered Us When Bound, William Cowper, 7777**

1 CHRIST delivered us when bound,  
And, when wounded, healed our wound,  
Sought us wandering, set us right,  
Turned our darkness into light.

2 Can a mother's tender care  
Cease towards the child she bare?  
Yes, she may forgetful prove;  
He will never cease to love.

3 His is an unchanging love,  
Higher than the heights above,

Deeper than the depths beneath,  
Free and faithful, strong as death.

4 We shall see His glory soon,  
When the work of grace is done,  
Partners of His throne above;  
Such to us His wondrous love!

5 This alone is our complaint,  
That our love is weak and faint;  
Yet we love Him, and adore,  
O for grace to love Him more!

Let me tell you a little story about Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*. I am a great lover of John Bunyan, but I do not believe him infallible; and the other day I met with a story about him which I think a very good one.

There was a young man, in Edinburgh, who wished to be a missionary. He was a wise young man; so he thought, "If I am to be a missionary, there is no need for me to transport myself far away from home; I may as well be a missionary in Edinburgh."

Well, this young man started, and determined to speak to the first person he met. He met one of those old fishwives; those of us who have seen them can never forget them, they are extraordinary women indeed. So, stepping up to her, he said, "Here you are, coming along with your burden on your back; let me ask you if you have got another burden, a spiritual burden."

"What!" she asked; "do you mean that burden in John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*? Because, if you do, young man, I got rid of that many years ago, probably before you were born. But I went a better way to work than the pilgrim did. The evangelist that John Bunyan talks about was one of your parsons that do not preach the gospel; for he said, 'Keep that light in thine eye, and run to the wicket-gate.' Why—man alive!—that was not the place for him to run to. He should have said, 'Do you see that cross? Run there at once!' But, instead of that, he sent the poor pilgrim to the wicket-gate first; and much good he got by going there! He got tumbling into the slough, and was like to have been killed by it."

"But did not you," the young man asked, "go through any Slough of Despond?"

"Yes, I did; but I found it a great deal easier going through with my burden off than with it on my back."

The old woman was quite right. John Bunyan put the getting rid of the burden too far off from the commencement of the pilgrimage. If he meant to show what usually

happens, he was right; but if he meant to show what ought to have happened, he was wrong.

We must not say to the sinner, "Now, sinner, if thou wilt be saved, go to the baptismal pool; go to the wicket-gate; go to the church; do this or that."

No, the cross should be right in front of the wicket-gate; and we should say to the sinner, "Throw thyself down there, and thou art safe; but thou are not safe till thou canst cast off thy burden, and lie at the foot of the cross, and find peace in Jesus." (Charles Spurgeon)

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## February 19 (Day 50)

Morning Readings- Exodus 2, Luke 5

Evening Readings- Job 19; 1 Corinthians 6

Character is what a man is in the dark.- D. L. Moody

### This Day in Christian History

1812 Missionaries Adoniram and Ann Judson set sail from New England for Calcutta, India. For their subsequent work in Burma, they became two of the most famous American missionaries of their day.

1869- Death of Elizabeth Clephane, who wrote hymns, including "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" and "The Ninety and Nine".

### **Call Jehovah Thy Salvation, James Montgomery (can be sung to "Jesus, What a Friend of Sinners")**

1 Call Jehovah thy salvation, rest beneath th'Almighty's shade.

In His secret habitation dwell, and never be dismayed.

There no tumult shall alarm thee, thou shalt dread no hidden snare.

Guile nor violence can harm thee, in eternal safeguard there.

2 From the sword at noonday wasting, from the noisome pestilence,

In the depth of midnight blasting, God shall be thy sure defense.

He shall charge His angel legions watch and ward over thee to keep.

Though thou walk through hostile regions, though in desert wilds thou sleep.

3 Since, with pure and firm affection, thou on God hast set thy love,

With the wings of His protection, He will shield thee from above.

Thou shalt call on Him in trouble, He will hearken, He will save.

Here for grief reward thee double, crown with life beyond the grave.

*Arise, shine . . . —Isaiah 60:1*

When it comes to taking the initiative against drudgery, we have to take the first step as though there were no God. There is no point in waiting for God to help us— He will not. But once we arise, immediately we find He is there. Whenever God gives us His

inspiration, suddenly taking the initiative becomes a moral issue— a matter of obedience. Then we must act to be obedient and not continue to lie down doing nothing. If we will arise and shine, drudgery will be divinely transformed.

Drudgery is one of the finest tests to determine the genuineness of our character. Drudgery is work that is far removed from anything we think of as ideal work. It is the utterly hard, menial, tiresome, and dirty work. And when we experience it, our spirituality is instantly tested and we will know whether or not we are spiritually genuine. Read John 13. In this chapter, we see the Incarnate God performing the greatest example of drudgery— washing fishermen’s feet. He then says to them, “If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet” (John 13:14). The inspiration of God is required if drudgery is to shine with the light of God upon it. In some cases the way a person does a task makes that work sanctified and holy forever. It may be a very common everyday task, but after we have seen it done, it becomes different. When the Lord does something through us, He always transforms it. Our Lord takes our human flesh and transforms it, and now every believer’s body has become “the temple of the Holy Spirit” (Oswald Chambers)

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### **February 20 (Day 51)**

Morning Readings- Exodus 3, Luke 6  
Evening Readings- Job 20; 1 Corinthians 7

We are not built for ourselves, but for God. Not for service for God, but for God.- Oswald Chambers

### **The Head That Once Was Crowned With Thorns, Thomas Kelly, C.M., Hebrews 2:10**

1 The head that once was crowned with  
thorns,  
Is crowned with glory now;  
A royal diadem adorns  
The mighty victor’s brow.

4 To them, the cross, with all its shame,  
With all its grace, is given;  
Their name an everlasting name,  
Their joy the joy of heaven.

2 The highest place that heaven affords  
Is his, is his by right,  
“THE KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF  
LORDS,”  
And heaven’s eternal light.

5 They suffer with their Lord below,  
They reign with him above;  
Their profit and their joy to know  
The mystery of his love.

3 The joy of all who dwell above,  
The joy of all below  
To whom he manifests his love,  
And grants his name to know.

6 The cross he bore is life and health,  
Though shame and death to him;  
His people’s hope, his people’s wealth,  
Their everlasting theme.

*"Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil."*  
Matthew 4:1

A HOLY character does not avert temptation--Jesus was tempted. When Satan tempts us, his sparks fall upon tinder; but in Christ's case, it was like striking sparks on water; yet the enemy continued his evil work. Now, if the devil goes on striking when there is no result, how much more will he do it when he knows what inflammable stuff our hearts are made of! Though you become greatly sanctified by the Holy Ghost, expect that the great dog of hell will bark at you still. In the haunts of men we expect to be tempted, but even seclusion will not guard us from the same trial. Jesus Christ was led away from human society into the wilderness, and was tempted of the devil. Solitude has its charms and its benefits, and may be useful in checking the lust of the eye and the pride of life; but the devil will follow us into the most lovely retreats. Do not suppose that it is only the worldly-minded who have dreadful thoughts and blasphemous temptations, for even spiritual-minded persons endure the same; and in the holiest position we may suffer the darkest temptation. The utmost consecration of spirit will not insure you against Satanic temptation. Christ was consecrated through and through. It was His meat and drink to do the will of Him that sent Him: and yet He was tempted! Your hearts may glow with a seraphic flame of love to Jesus, and yet the devil will try to bring you down to Laodicean lukewarmness. If you will tell me when God permits a Christian to lay aside his armor, I will tell you when Satan has left off temptation. Like the old knights in war time, we must sleep with helmet and breastplate buckled on, for the arch-deceiver will seize our first unguarded hour to make us his prey. The Lord keep us watchful in all seasons, and give us a final escape from the jaw of the lion and the paw of the bear. (Charles Spurgeon)

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### **February 21 (Day 52)**

Morning Readings- Exodus 4, Luke 7

Evening Readings- Job 21; 1 Corinthians 8

God had one Son without sin, but no son without stripes. God puts his children to school at the cross, and there they learn best. God's children sing most sweetly when God hedgeth up their way with thorns, Hosea ii. 15.- Thomas Watson.

#### This Day in Christian History

1945 Death of Eric Liddell, Scottish Olympic champion runner and missionary to China. Liddell's college running days are portrayed in the 1981 film *Chariots of Fire*. He died of a brain tumor while in a Japanese prison camp in China.

### **God Is My Strong Salvation, James Montgomery (Can be sung to "The Church's One Foundation")**

1 God is my strong Salvation: What foe have I to fear?  
In darkness and temptation, my Light, my Help is near.  
Though hosts encamp around me, firm in the fight I stand.  
What terror can confound me, with God at my right hand?

2 Place on the Lord reliance; my soul, with courage, wait.  
His truth will be my Sustenance, when faint and desolate.  
His might my heart shall strengthen, His love my joy increase.  
Mercy my days shall lengthen; the Lord will give me peace.

Upon these words of Christ, "If a man loveth me, he will keep my Word, and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him," I say thus, said Luther: Heaven and earth, the castles and palaces of all Emperors, Kings, and Princes, are no way sufficient to make a dwelling-place for God; yet, in a silly human creature that keepeth his Word he will dwell. Isaiah calleth heaven his "seat," and earth his "footstool," but not his dwelling; therefore, when we long to seek after God, we shall be sure to find him with them that hear and keep his Word, as Christ saith, "He that keepeth my Word, I will come and dwell with him." (Martin Luther)

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### February 22 (Day 53)

Morning Readings- Exodus 5, Luke 8  
Evening Readings- Job 22; 1 Corinthians 9

I have found that there are three stages in every great work of God: first, it is impossible, then it is difficult, then it is done.- Hudson Taylor

### Look Ye Saints, The Sight is Glorious, Thomas Kelly, 878747 Revelation 11:15

1 Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious,  
See the "Man of Sorrows" now;  
From the fight returned victorious,  
Every knee to him shall bow:  
Crown him, crown him;  
Crowns become the victor's brow.

3 Sinners in derision crowned him.  
Mocking thus the Saviour's claim;  
Saints and angels crowd around him.  
Own his title, praise his name:  
Crown him, crown him;  
Spread abroad the victor's fame.

2 Crown the Saviour, angels crown him:  
Rich the trophies Jesus brings:  
In the seat of power enthrone him,  
While the vault of heaven rings:  
Crown him, crown him;  
Crown the Saviour "King of kings."

4 Hark! those bursts of acclamation!  
Hark! those loud triumphant chords!  
Jesus takes the highest station:  
O what joy the sight affords!  
Crown him, crown him;  
"King of kings, and Lord of lords."

Worship God in your family. – If you do not worship God in your family, you are living in positive sin; you may be quite sure you do not care for the souls of your family. If you neglect to spread a meal for your children to eat, would it not be said that you did not care for their bodies? And if you do not lead your children and servants to the green pastures of God's Word, and to seek the living water, how plain is it that you do not care for their souls! Do it regularly, morning and evening. It is more needful than your daily

food, more needful than your work. How vain and silly all your excuses will appear, when you look back from Hell! Do it fully. Some clip off the psalm, and some the reading of the Word; and so the worship of God is reduced to a mockery. Do it in a spiritual, lively manner, go to it as to a well of salvation. (Robert Murray McCheyne)

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### February 23 (Day 54)

Morning Readings- Exodus 6, Luke 9  
Evening Readings- Job 23; 1 Corinthians 10

There are three indispensable requirements for a missionary: 1. Patience 2. Patience 3. Patience.- Hudson Taylor

#### This Day in Christian History

1685 Birth of George Frideric Handel, German-born English composer of Messiah (first performed in 1742). He also composed hymn tunes such as “Christmas” (“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night”); “Antioch” (“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”); and “Maccabeus” (“Thine Be the Glory, Risen, Conquering Son”).

#### **Lord, Teach Us How To Pray Aright, James Montgomery (8786)**

1 Lord, teach us how to pray aright,  
With reverence and with fear;  
Though dust and ashes in Thy sight,  
We may, we must draw near.

2 We perish if we cease from prayer;  
O grant us power to pray;  
And when to meet Thee we prepare,  
Lord, meet us by the way.

3 God of all grace, we come to Thee  
With broken, contrite hearts;  
Give what Thine eye delights to see,  
Truth in the inward parts.

4 Faith in the only sacrifice  
That can for sin atone;  
To cast our hopes, to fix our eyes,  
On Christ, on Christ alone.

5 Patience to watch, and wait, and weep,  
Though mercy long delay;  
Courage our fainting souls to keep,  
And trust Thee though Thou slay.

6 Give these, and then Thy will be done,  
Thus, strengthened with all might,  
We, through Thy Spirit and Thy Son,  
Shall pray, and pray aright.

“July 8 [1836 diary] – Since Tuesday have been laid up with illness. Set by once more for a season to feel my unprofitableness and cure my pride. When shall this self-choosing temper be healed? ‘Lord, I will preach, run, visit, wrestle,’ said I. ‘No, thou shalt lie in thy bed and suffer,’ said the Lord. Today missed some fine opportunities of speaking a word for Christ. The Lord saw I would have spoken as much for my own honor as His, and therefore shut my mouth. I see a man cannot be a faithful minister, until he preaches Christ for Christ’s sake – until he gives up striving to attract people to

himself, and seeks only to attract them to Christ. Lord, give me this!" (Robert Murray McCheyne)

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## February 24 (Day 55)

Morning Readings- Exodus 7, Luke 10

Evening Readings- Job 24; 1 Corinthians 11

Do not work so hard for Christ that you have no strength to pray, for prayer requires strength.- Hudson Taylor

### This Day in Christian History

1902 Birth of English missionary Gladys Aylward who worked among the Chinese (1932–48).

### **Prayer is The Soul's Sincere Desire, James Montgomery C.M.**

1 Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,  
Unuttered or expressed;  
The motion of a hidden fire  
That trembles in the breast.

2 Prayer is the burden of a sigh,  
The falling of a tear  
The upward glancing of an eye,  
When none but God is near.

3 Prayer is the simplest form of speech  
That infant lips can try;  
Prayer, the sublimest strains  
That reach The Majesty on high.

4 Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,  
The Christian's native air,  
His watchword at the gates of death;  
He enters Heav'n with prayer.

5 Prayer is the contrite sinner's voice,  
Returning from his ways,  
While angels in their songs rejoice  
And cry, "Behold, he prays!"

6 The saints in prayer appear as one  
In word, in deed, and mind,  
While with the Father and the Son  
Sweet fellowship they find.

7 No prayer is made by man alone  
The Holy Spirit pleads,  
And Jesus, on th'eternal throne,  
For sinners intercedes.

8 O Thou by Whom we come to God,  
The Life, the Truth, the Way,  
The path of prayer Thyself hast trod:  
Lord, teach us how to pray.

Whatever be said in the pulpit men will not much regard, though they may feel it at the time, if the minister does not say the same in private, with equal earnestness, in speaking with his people face to face; and it must be in our moments of most familiar intercourse with them, that we are thus to put the seal to all we say in public. Familiar moments are the times when the things that are most closely twined round the heart are brought out to view; and shall we forbear ... We must not only speak faithfully to our people in our sermons, but live faithfully for them too. Perhaps it may be found that the reason why many who preach the gospel fully and in all earnestness are not owned of God in the conversion of souls, is to be found in their defective exhibition of grace in

these easy moments of life ... It was noticed long ago that men will give you permission to preach against their sins as much as you will, if you will but be easy with them when you have done, and talk as they do, and live **as they live**. How much otherwise was it with Mr. M'Cheyne, all who knew him are witnesses." (Andrew Bonar)

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### February 25 (Day 56)

Morning Readings- Exodus 8, Luke 11

Evening Readings- Job 25,26; 1 Corinthians 12

Whatever is your best time in the day, give that to communion with God.- Hudson Taylor

### Stand Up And Bless The Lord, James Montgomery

1 Stand up and bless the Lord  
Ye people of His choice;  
Stand up and bless the Lord your God  
With heart and soul and voice.

2 Though high above all praise,  
Above all blessing high,  
Who would not fear His holy Name,  
And laud and magnify?

3 O for the living flame  
From His own altar brought,  
To touch our lips, our minds inspire,  
And wing to heaven our thought!

4 There, with benign regard,  
Our hymns He deigns to hear;  
Though unrevealed to mortal sense,  
Our spirits feel Him near.

5 God is our Strength and Song,  
And His salvation ours;  
Then be His love in Christ proclaimed  
With all our ransomed powers.

6 Stand up and bless the Lord;  
The Lord your God adore;  
Stand up and bless His glorious Name;  
Henceforth forevermore.

When I first entered upon the work of the ministry among you, I was exceedingly ignorant of the vast importance of church discipline. I thought that my great and almost only work was to pray and preach. I saw your souls to be so precious, and the time so short, that I devoted all my time, and care, and strength, to labor in word and doctrine. When cases of discipline were brought before me and the elders, I regarded them with something like abhorrence. It was a duty I shrank from; and I may truly say it nearly drove me from the work of the ministry among you altogether. But it pleased God, who teaches His servants in another way than man teaches, to bless some of the cases of discipline to the manifest and undeniable conversion of the souls of those under our care; and from that hour a new light broke in upon my mind, and I saw that if preaching be an ordinance of Christ, so is church discipline. I now feel very deeply persuaded that both are of God – that two keys are committed to us by Christ: the one the key of doctrine, by means of which we unlock the treasures of the Bible; the other the key of discipline, by which we open or shut the way to the sealing ordinances of the faith. Both are Christ's gift, and neither is to be resigned without sin." (Robert Murray McCheyne)

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**February 26 (Day 57)**

Morning Readings- Exodus 9, Luke 12  
Evening Readings- Job 27; 1 Corinthians 13

You may find hundreds of faultfinders among professed Christians; but all their criticism will not lead one solitary soul to Christ.- D. L. Moody

**To Thy Temple I Repair, James Montgomery (7777)**

1 To Thy temple I repair;  
Lord, I love to worship there  
When within the veil I meet  
Christ before the mercy seat.

2 I through Him am reconciled,  
I through Him become Thy child.  
Abba, Father, give me grace  
In Thy courts to seek Thy face.

3 While Thy glorious praise is sung,  
Touch my lips, unloose my tongue,  
That my joyful soul may bless  
Christ the Lord, my Righteousness.

4 While the prayers of saints ascend,  
God of Love, to mine attend.

Hear me, for Thy Spirit pleads;  
Hear, for Jesus intercedes.

5 While I hearken to Thy law,  
Fill my soul with humble awe  
Till Thy Gospel bring to me  
Life and immortality.

6 While Thy ministers proclaim  
Peace and pardon in Thy Name,  
Through their voice, by faith, may I  
Hear Thee speaking from the sky.

7 From Thy house when I return,  
May my heart within me burn,  
And at evening let me say,  
"I have walked with God today."

The way to deeper knowledge of God is through the lonely valleys of soul poverty and abnegation of all things. The blessed ones who possess the Kingdom are they who have repudiated every external thing and have rooted from their hearts all sense of possessing. These are the "poor in spirit." They have reached an inward state paralleling the outward circumstances of the common beggar in the streets of Jerusalem; that is what the word "poor" as Christ used it actually means. These blessed poor are no longer slaves to the tyranny of things. They have broken the yoke of the oppressor; and this they have done not by fighting but by surrendering. Though free from all sense of possessing, they yet possess all things. "Theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Let me exhort you to take this seriously. It is not to be understood as mere Bible teaching to be stored away in the mind along with an inert mass of other doctrines. It is a marker on the road to greener pastures, a path chiseled against the steep sides of the mount of God. We dare not try to by-pass it if we would follow on in this holy pursuit. We must ascend a step at a time. If we refuse one step we bring our progress to an end. (A. W. Tozer, The Pursuit of God).

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## February 27 (Day 58)

Morning Readings- Exodus 10, Luke 13

Evening Readings- Job 28; 1 Corinthians 14

God doesn't seek for golden vessels, and does not ask for silver ones, but He must have clean ones.- D. L. Moody

### This Day in Christian History

1838 Birth of William J. Kirkpatrick, American Methodist sacred composer. He is best remembered for composing the melodies to such sacred favorites as "He Hideth My Soul," "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus," "Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It," and "Lord, I'm Coming Home."

### **What Are These In Bright Array, James Montgomery (7s)**

1 What are these in bright array,  
This innumerable throng  
Round the altar night and day,  
Hymning one triumphant song?  
"Worthy is the Lamb, once slain,  
Blessing honor, glory, power,  
Wisdom, riches, to obtain,  
New dominion every hour."

2 These through fiery trials trod;  
These from great affliction came;  
Now before the throne of God  
Sealed with His almighty Name,

Clad in raiment pure and white,  
Victor-palms in every hand,  
Through their dear Redeemer's might,  
More than conquerors they stand.

3 Hunger, thirst, disease, unknown,  
On immortal fruits they feed;  
Them the Lamb amidst the throne  
Shall to living fountains lead:  
Joy and gladness banish sighs;  
Perfect love dispel all fear;  
And for ever from their eyes  
God shall wipe away the tear.

I am led to remember this by the fact that a somewhat singular circumstance, recorded in my memory, connects this text [Eph. 2:8] with myself and my grandfather. It is now long years ago. I was announced to preach in a certain country town in the Eastern Counties. It does not often happen to me to be behind time, for I feel that punctuality is one of those little virtues which may prevent great sins. But we have no control over railway delays, and breakdowns; and so it happened that I reached the appointed place considerably behind the time.

Like sensible people, they had begun their worship, and had proceeded as far as the sermon. As I neared the chapel, I perceived that someone was in the pulpit preaching, and who should the preacher be but my dear and venerable grandfather! He saw me as I came in at the front door and made my way up the aisle, and at once he said, 'Here comes my grandson! He may preach the gospel better than I can, but he cannot preach a better gospel; can you, Charles?'

As I made my way through the throng, I answered, 'You can preach better than I can. Pray go on.' But he would not agree to that. I must take the sermon, and so I did, going on with the subject there and then, just where he left off. 'There,' said he, 'I was

preaching on 'For by grace are ye saved.' I have been setting forth the source and fountainhead of salvation; and I am now showing them the channel of it, through faith. Now you take it up, and go on.'

I am so much at home with these glorious truths that I could not feel any difficulty in taking from my grandfather the thread of his discourse, and joining my thread to it, so as to continue without a break. Our agreement in the things of God made it easy for us to be joint-preachers of the same discourse. I went on with 'through faith,' and then I proceeded to the next point, 'and that not of yourselves.'

Upon this I was explaining the weakness and inability of human nature, and the certainty that salvation could not be of ourselves, when I had my coat-tail pulled, and my well-beloved grandsire took his turn again. 'When I spoke of our depraved human nature,' the good old man said, 'I know most about that, dear friends'; and so he took up the parable, and for the next five minutes set forth a solemn and humbling description of our lost estate, the depravity of our nature, and the spiritual death under which we were found.

When he had said his say in a very gracious manner, his grandson was allowed to go on again, to the dear old man's great delight; for now and then he would say, in a gentle tone, 'Good! Good!' Once he said, 'Tell them that again, Charles.' and, of course, I did tell them that again. It was a happy exercise to me to take my share in bearing witness to truths of such vital importance, which are so deeply impressed upon my heart.

While announcing this text I seem to hear that dear voice, which has been so long lost to earth, saying to me, "TELL THEM THAT AGAIN." I am not contradicting the testimony of forefathers who are now with God. If my grandfather could return to earth, he would find me where he left me, steadfast in the faith, and true to that form of doctrine which was once delivered to the saints." (Charles Spurgeon)

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### **February 28 (Day 59)**

Morning Readings- Exodus 11,12:1-21, Luke 14

Evening Readings- Job 29; 1 Corinthians 15

Remember that if you are a child of God, you will never be happy in sin. You are spoiled for the world, the flesh, and the devil. When you were regenerated there was put into you a vital principle, which can never be content to dwell in the dead world. You will have to come back, if indeed you belong to the family.- Charles Spurgeon

#### This Day in Christian History

1865 Birth of Wilfred T. Grenfell, English-born medical missionary to Labrador, Newfoundland. Grenfell built hospitals and schools, and outfitted the first hospital ship to serve fishermen in the North Sea.

#### **Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted, Thomas Kelly, 8787D, Isaiah 53:4**

1 "Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,"  
See him dying on the tree!

'Tis the Christ by man rejected!  
Yes, my soul, 'tis he! 'tis he!

'Tis the long-expected prophet,  
David's son, yet David's Lord;  
Proofs I see sufficient of it:  
'Tis a true and faithful word.

2 Tell me, ye who hear him groaning,  
Was there ever grief like his?  
Friends through fear his cause  
disowning,  
Foes insulting his distress.  
Many hands were raised to wound him,  
None would interpose to save;  
But the awful stroke that found him,  
Was the stroke that justice gave.

3 Ye who think of sin but lightly,

Nor suppose the evil great,  
Here may view its nature rightly,  
Here its guilt may estimate.  
Mark the sacrifice appointed!  
See who bears the awful load!  
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed,  
Son of man, and Son of God.

4 Here we have a firm foundation;  
Here's the refuge of the lost:  
Christ's the rock of our salvation;  
His the name of which we boast.  
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded!  
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!  
None shall ever be confounded,  
Who on him their hope have built.

Not long since, said Luther, I invited to my table, at Wittenberg, an Hungarian Divine, named Matthias de Vai, who told me that, as he came first to be a Preacher in Hungary, he chanced to fall out with a Papistical Priest. Now, he was complained of by that Priest to a Friar that was brother to the Vaivoda, or Governor of Buda, and they were both summoned to appear before him. The one much accusing the other, insomuch that the Friar could not reconcile nor take up the controversy between them, at last, and after long debate, the Friar said, "I know a way soon to discover the truth of this cause," and commanded that two barrels of gunpowder should be set in the midst of the market-place at Buda, and said unto the parties, "He that will maintain his Doctrine to be right, and the true Word of God, let him sit upon one of these barrels, and I will give fire unto it, and he that remaineth living and unburned, his Doctrine is right." Then Matthias de Vai leaped presently upon one of the barrels and sat himself down thereon; but the Papist Priest would not up to the other barrel, but slunk away. Then the Friar said, "Now I see and know that the Faith and Doctrine of Matthias de Vai is the right, and that our Papistical Religion is false." And thereupon he punished and fined the Papist, with his assistants, for wronging De Vai, in four thousand Hungarian ducats, and compelled him for a certain time to maintain one hundred soldiers at his own charge; but he licensed Matthias de Vai openly to preach the Gospel. The Friar himself, recanting his religion, was converted and became a Protestant; whereupon Luther said, Never yet would any Papist burn for religion, but our people go with joy to the fire, as heretofore hath been well seen on the holy Martyrs. (Martin Luther)

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### February 29 (day 60 for leap years)

#### This Day in Christian History

1528- Death of Patrick Hamilton, Scottish reformer who became the first martyr of the Scottish reformation.

An honest man with an open Bible and a pad and pencil is sure to find out what is wrong with him very quickly.- A. W. Tozer

**Hark The Notes of Angels Singing, Thomas Kelly 8787, Revelation 5:12**

1 Hark the notes of angels singing—  
“Glory, glory to the Lamb!”  
All in heaven their tribute bringing,  
Raising high the Saviour’s name.

2 Ye for whom his life was given,  
Sacred themes to you belong:  
Come assist the choir of heaven;  
Join the everlasting song.

3 Saints and angels thus united,  
Songs imperfect still must raise;  
Though despised on earth, and slighted,  
Jesus is above all praise.

4 See th’ angelic hosts have crowned  
him,  
Jesus fills the throne on high:  
Countless myriads, hovering round him,  
With his praises rend the sky.

5 Filled with holy emulation,  
Let us vie with those above:  
Sweet the theme—a free salvation!  
Fruit of everlasting love.

6 Endless life in him possessing,  
Let us praise his precious name:  
Glory, honour, power and blessing,  
Be for ever to the Lamb.

Hymnody is sweet with the longing after God, the God whom, while the singer seeks, he knows he has already found. "His track I see and I'll pursue," sang our fathers only a short generation ago, but that song is heard no more in the great congregation. How tragic that we in this dark day have had our seeking done for us by our teachers. Everything is made to center upon the initial act of "accepting" Christ (a term, incidentally, which is not found in the Bible) and we are not expected thereafter to crave any further revelation of God to our souls. We have been snared in the coils of a spurious logic which insists that if we have found Him we need no more seek Him. This is set before us as the last word in orthodoxy, and it is taken for granted that no Bible-taught Christian ever believed otherwise. Thus the whole testimony of the worshipping, seeking, singing Church on that subject is crisply set aside. The experiential heart-theology of a grand army of fragrant saints is rejected in favor of a smug interpretation of Scripture which would certainly have sounded strange to an Augustine, a Rutherford or a Brainerd. (A. W. Tozer, *The Pursuit of God*).