

Read the Whole Bible with Pastor

Monday (June 19) – Ruth 1, 2

Naomi believes God has dealt with her bitterly. Ruth wishes to return to Judah with Naomi and this is not an expression of God's displeasure. Rather than bringing calamity the Lord will provide His kindness and blessing. With the words, “The Lord be with you!” “The Lord bless you!” these men acknowledge God's presence and blessing. Through Boaz God shows His kindness to Ruth, a foreigner now living among God's people. As His Christian people adopted in Christ, we are no longer foreigners but now God's own special people by faith!

Tuesday (June 20) – Ruth 3, 4

Ruth approaches as a servant but is called to be a daughter! Boaz will spread his wings over Ruth showing care and kindness as a redeemer. No impropriety is involved here, for Ruth is a model of faith and modesty for God's people today. It is truly under the Lord's wings that Ruth has come to take refuge (2:12). Boaz here models the Redeemer, our Lord Jesus himself as He woos and weds His bride. For our Redeemer redeems our lives, calls us to Himself, and makes us His own sons and daughters! Boaz purchases Ruth as his own. The Lord will make her fruitful in building up the House of Israel (4:11). Through Ruth comes the king David, and the true King of Israel, our Lord Jesus Christ! Blessed is our Lord who has not left us without a Redeemer (4:14). Our lives are restored in Christ for we are purchased of God (4:15)!

Wednesday (June 21) – 1 Samuel 1

God's answers prayer and also provides a prophet for Israel. Hannah is heard by God. Her prayer is answered through the blessing of Eli the priest. In response to answered prayer the child is lent to the Lord. As God's people, whatever we ask in His name we receive when we ask according to His will (1 John 5:14).

Thursday (June 22) – 1 Samuel 2

Hannah praises the God of all who provides blessing in giving her a child. Her song of praise reminds of Mary who sang of the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ! There is a contrast at the beginning of the book between serving self or serving the Lord. Eli's sons are hindering the worship of God for they do not know the Lord (v. 12). Treating holy things as common, their self-serving sin is great. Samuel, on the other hand, grows in stature and in favor with the Lord and with man. We are reminded of Jesus who grew in favor with God and with man and as the true faithful priest does what is in God's heart and mind. God's servants today are warned as they serve with the holy things of His word in worship. They must not treat what is Holy as common and they are to beware of covetousness. Lord have mercy upon us all!

Friday (June 23) – 1 Samuel 3

Samuel does not yet know the Lord. This is not due to a lack of faith, but because the word of God has yet to be revealed to him. God calls Samuel directly to serve Him. He speaks the word and Samuel responds. Today's pastors are called and ordained as the people of God gather in prayer and select them from their midst. Upon receiving the call Samuel responds, "Speak, for your servant hears." Let us pray that as we receive our Lord's words in our ears these would also penetrate our hearts, and that we would grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18)!

Saturday (June 24) – 1 Samuel 4, 5

The people treat the holy ark as a common thing by acting without a direct word from God. They appear here to trust more in their action of carrying the ark into their presence than in the God who reveals himself in and with it. It is faith alone in the presence of the Lord that will save. The Lord afflicts the Philistines with tumors. His hand is against these unbelieving enemies for judgment. Faith alone makes one worthy of God's presence. All false gods will one day fall before the presence of the true God. For every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:10, 11).

Sunday (June 25) – 1 Samuel 6, 7

God returns the ark to the people of Israel. We are reminded once more of God's holy things. Although the people rightly worship while offering sacrifice by means of the ark, the Lord strikes seventy of the men for looking upon the ark. These men are irreverent, presuming to handle the holy things of God while not being consecrated to God's holy work. We are reminded of the institution of the Holy Ministry in our day and how the Lord operates through these men as he sets them apart to speak His words.

The prophet calls the people to return to the Lord with all their heart and to put away their false gods that they may be delivered. Returning in repentance is expressed as the people pour out water before their God. They fast and they confess their sins in faith. By means of the prophet's word and intercession the help of God is extended to the people once more. Samuel intercedes on their behalf pointing toward Christ who ever lives to make intercession for us as God's people (Hebrews 7:25)!