



Meditations for the Easter Season: 2019

EASTER WEEK:

The meditations for Easter week are drawn from 1 Peter. Many consider 1 Peter to be in part an Easter sermon—meditating on it will allow us to continue our focus on the redemption won by Christ.

Mon 4/22 | 1 Pet. 1:1-21

The resurrection of the Lord Jesus gives us joy, teaching us to set our hope upon the heavenly inheritance and to live a holy life as sojourners here on earth. We are delivered from bondage by the true Passover Lamb.

Tue. 4/23 | 1 Pet. 1:22 – 2:10

The resurrection brings us the new birth that allows us to be a holy nation, a royal priesthood, a spiritual temple, and a people that offers spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God.

Wed. 4/24 | 1 Pet. 2:11-25

Joining ourselves to the risen Christ makes us citizens of heaven, and therefore sojourners and exiles on earth. We should live as guests on our best behavior among the nations.

Thu. 4/25 | 1 Pet. 3:1-17

Even though the resurrection has happened, our life here will be characterized by the same difficulties that faced our Lord, and so we should follow his example in doing what is right and in seeking peace.

Fri. 4/26 | 1 Pet. 3:18 – 4:11

Because of the death and resurrection of Christ, we live now in the Spirit and await the age to come.

Sat. 4/27 | 1 Pet. 4:12 – 5:14

We live in a time of spiritual warfare and judgment, and so we have special need of righteousness and good order. But we also await the intervention of our creator and the revelation of his eternal glory.

THIS YEAR, BETWEEN THE END OF EASTER WEEK AND ASCENSION, THE READINGS AND MEDITATIONS ARE TAKEN FROM THE BOOK OF REVELATION. THE PURPOSE IS TO CONSIDER THE FULFILLMENT OF THE WORK OF CHRIST IN THIS AGE OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE AND FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE END OF TIME.

WHAT FOLLOWS IS A RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE FOR THE MEDITATIONS, BUT THEY CAN BE ADAPTED TO FIT YOUR SCHEDULE. THERE ARE NO READINGS FOR WEEK SIX UNTIL ASCENSION THURSDAY, IN ORDER TO ALLOW TIME FOR YOU TO CATCH UP ON ANY READINGS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED.

WEEK TWO (4/28 – 5/4):

Rev. 1:1-20
Rev. 2:1-11
Rev. 2:12-29
Rev. 3:1-22
Rev. 4:1-11
Rev. 5:1-14

WEEK FOUR (5/12 – 5/18):

Rev. 12:1-17
Rev. 13:1-18
Rev. 14:1-13
Rev. 14:14 – 15:4
Rev. 15:5 – 16:21
Rev. 17:1-18
Rev. 18:1-20

WEEK THREE (5/5 – 5/11):

Rev. 6:1-17
Rev. 7:1-17
Rev. 8:1-13
Rev. 9:1-12
Rev. 9:13-21
Rev. 10:1-11
Rev. 11:1-19

WEEK FIVE (5/19 – 5/25):

Rev. 18:21 – 19:10
Rev. 19:11-21
Rev. 20:1-15
Rev. 21:1-8
Rev. 21:9-27
Rev. 22:1-9
Rev. 22:10-21

WEEK SIX: No set readings for 5/26 – 5/29 (until Ascension Thursday). Use these days to catch up on any missed readings.

ASCENSION – PENTECOST:

Between Ascension and Pentecost, the readings and meditations are taken mainly from 1 John. The purpose is to prepare for Pentecost, which is the end of the Easter season. The focus is on our union with God in Christ through the Holy Spirit, that is to say, the life of the Christian between the resurrection/ascension of Christ and his second coming. The 1st Letter of John also continues one theme from Revelation, namely, the present activity of the anti-christ, and the need to discern this present stage of spiritual warfare.

Thu. 5/30 | Eph. 4:1-24

The resurrection and Ascension of the Lord establish the body of Christ in the world, living now a new life according to the 'new man', distinct from unbelievers.

Fri. 5/31 | 1 Jn. 1:1-10

Jesus was the life that came into the world; now we live in the light, cleansed from sin.

Sat. 6/1 | 1 Jn. 2:1-17

The new way of life involves keeping the commandments, loving the brethren, and not loving the world, and we can live this way through what Christ has done.

Sun. 6/2 | 1 Jn. 2:18-27

In this period, we live in a time of spiritual warfare, and our faithfulness to the truth protects us from deception.

Mon. 6/3 | 1 Jn. 2:28 – 3:18

We can be assured that we are of God because we avoid sin and love the brethren, and so show the result of the victory of Christ over the devil in our lives.

Tue. 6/4 | 1 Jn. 3:19 – 4:6

We can be assured that we are of God by the presence of his Spirit in us, and by the way his Spirit has delivered us from the work of the antichrist and the world.

Wed. 6/5 | 1 Jn. 4:7-21

We can love one another, and live in righteousness, because God has loved us first, and sent his Son to save us. And he now dwells in us through his Spirit.

Thu. 6/6 | 1 Jn. 5:1-12

We are given victory through the work of Christ, and we receive that victory and the life it brings by our faith in Christ.

Fri. 6/7 | 1 Jn. 5:13-21

We have been taught the truth and we should confidently live that truth, keeping away from what is of the evil one.

Sat. 6/8 | 2 Jn. 1-13

We need to hold to the truth, and follow the way of love, and keep the true teaching about the Father and the Son.

Sun. 6/9 (Pentecost) | Rom. 8:5-27

The Holy Spirit in us brings relationship to God in Christ and true life, a life which Christ won for us through his death and resurrection. And the presence of the Spirit in us gives us hope and confidence that we will receive the full inheritance in the glory that is to be revealed.