



FORTY-DAY BIBLE READINGS FOR LENT *

Preamble

In the Reformed sector of the Christian church we have, historically, had mixed feelings and practices concerning the Christian calendar. Our forefathers took seriously what they called the regulative principle of worship. According to this principle, the church only has the right to implement in the essence of public worship that which is specifically commanded and regulated by God in his Word. On this understanding, Lent is no more holy (set apart by God) than is Christmas or Easter. It cannot then be mandated.

That said, amid the opposing forces of the secularism and multi-religiosity of our world today, what is not holy, may, in a biblically-Reformed way, become helpful, both to ourselves as Christians and as efforts in reaching the non-Christian world. While, then, the Reformed do not advocate giving up pleasures for Lent (since neither Easter nor the forty-day preparation are required by Scripture), we may offer a Bible reading schedule to aid those keen to learn more of the life, death, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. After all, no one loses out spiritually by filling their minds with the written and living word of God. Indeed, Jesus prayed to his Father that he would sanctify his disciples by his Word, for his Word is truth (Jn. 17:17).

It is in this light that I offer the following reading schedule. May each of us find it spiritually profitable. It consists of select readings from the four Gospels, covering the period from Jesus' setting of his face to go to Jerusalem (Lk. 9:51) until the resurrection (as recorded by the four Gospels). In following the schedule, focus not on Lent but on the majestic person and work of the Lord Jesus. May God richly bless to us our meditation on his Word.

In Christ's service and in brotherly love,

Tim J. R. Trumper, President,
From His Fullness Ministries

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Day 1	"When the days drew near"	Luke 9:51-62
Day 2	"He went on his way through towns and village"	Luke 13:22-35
Day 3	"Six days before the Passover"	John 12:1-11
Day 4	"He went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem"	Luke 19:28-48
Day 5	"And Jesus entered the temple"	Matthew 21:12-27
Day 6	"What do you think?"	Matt.21:28-22:14
Day 7	"Pharisees . . . plotted how to entangle [Jesus]"	Matthew 22:15-46
Day 8	"Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples"	Matthew 23:1-39
Day 9	"As [Jesus] came out of the temple"	Mark 13:1-37
Day 10	Parables of the Final Judgment	Matthew 25:1-46
Day 11	"Now among those who went up to worship"	John 12:20-50
Day 12	"You know after two days the Passover is Coming"	Matthew 26:1-16
Day 13	"Now before the Feast of the Passover"	John 13:1-35
Day 14	"Then came the day of unleavened bread"	Luke 22:7-38
Day 15	"And when they had sung a hymn"	Matthew 26:30-46
Day 16	"Lord, where are you going?"	John 13:36-14:31
Day 17	"I am the true vine"	John 15:1-17
Day 18	"If the world hates you"	John 15:18-16:4a
Day 19	"Now I am going to him who sent me"	John 16:4b-33
Day 20	"[Jesus] lifted up his eyes to heaven"	John 17:1-26
Day 21	"And immediately, while he was still speaking"	Mark 14:43-52
Day 22	Trial, Phase 1: Before the Council	Luke 2:63-65; Matthew 26:57-68
Day 23	Peter's denial of Jesus	John 18:15-27

Day 24	“When morning came”	Matthew 27:1-10
Day 25	Trial, Phase 2: Before Pilate	John 18:28-40
Day 26	Trial, Phase 3: Before Herod	Luke 23:1-25
Day 27	“Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him”	John 19:1-16
Day 28	“They came to a place called Golgotha”	Matthew 27:27-44
Day 29	The death of Jesus according to Matthew	Matthew 27:45-56
Day 30	The death of Jesus according to Mark	Mark 15:33-41
Day 31	The death of Jesus according to Luke	Luke 23:26-49
Day 32	The death of Jesus according to John	John 19:17-37
Day 33	The burial of Jesus	John 19:38-42
Day 34	The resurrection of Jesus according to Matthew	Matthew 27:62–28:20
Day 35	The resurrection of Jesus according to Mark	Mark 15:42–16:9
Day 36	The resurrection of Jesus according to Luke (I)	Luke 24:1-49
Day 37	The resurrection of Jesus according to John (I)	John 20:1-31
Day 38	The resurrection of Jesus according to John (II)	John 21:1-25
Day 39	The resurrection of Jesus according to Paul	1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Day 40	The resurrection of Jesus according to Luke (II)	Acts 1:1-5; Luke 24:50-53



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