

Sermon Study Questions

Sunday, September 6, 2026

1. Read Isaiah ch.50
2. At the beginning of ch.50 the Lord responds to an absurd suggestion made by Judah. What is the suggestion? How do you know? Why is this an absurd suggestion?
3. Why was Judah sent away into exile? Why should they have known why they were sent into exile?
4. At the end of v.2 the Lord emphasizes that there is still hope for Judah. Based upon the text, what does the Lord point to in order to bolster their hope?
5. Whereas Judah refused to listen to the Lord, the faithful Servant of the Lord always listens to Him. What did listening to the Lord and obeying Him lead to for the faithful Servant? What practical lesson do you learn from this?
6. In v.4 the faithful Servant says, "The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning He awakens; He awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught." What is He saying here, and what practical application can you make from this statement?
7. In v.10 the faithful Servant asks, "Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of his servant?" Then says, "Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God." What does "walking in darkness" refer to here? What is He exhorting His people to do in saying this?

8. Conversely, in v.11 He says, “Behold, all you who kindle a fire, who equip yourselves with burning torches! Walk by the light of your fire, and by the torches that you have kindled! This you have from my hand: you shall lie down in torment.” What is the lesson here? Look up Prov.16:25.

9. What practical application can you make from this text/sermon?

10. Pray!

Reading of Law: 1 Thessalonians 5:18

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

Prayer of Confession:

Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. You are the Holy and Blessed One who rules over all. This morning we come before you and confess that we are not what you command us to be, but our sins are ever before us. We confess that we do not give thanks in all circumstances, but instead we grumble and complain about everything from the smallest inconveniences we face to the larger problems of life. We confess that we moan and murmur like Israel in the wilderness when things don’t go the way we want them to. We also acknowledge that in our failure to give thanks in all things we are tacitly saying you don’t do all things well. Father, please forgive us. For you are a God who is good and does good and this morning we want to say thank you for all the goodness you have shown us. We thank that even in the most difficult moments of life that you are with us and have promised to work all things together for our good and your glory. But most of all we want to thank you for the gift of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and for the eternal life we have in Him. It is in Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness: Isaiah 1:18

“Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.”

Heidelberg Catechism: Lord’s Day 52

Q.127. What is the sixth petition?

A. “And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one;” that is, since we are so weak in ourselves that we cannot stand a moment, and besides, our deadly enemies, the devil, the world, and our own flesh, assail us without ceasing, be pleased to preserve and strengthen us by the power of Your Holy Spirit, that we may make firm stand against them and not be overcome in this spiritual warfare, until finally complete victory is ours.

[1] [Jn. 15:5](#); [Ps. 103:14–16](#). [2] [1 Pet. 5:8–9](#); [Eph. 6:12–13](#). [3] [Jn. 15:19](#). [4] [Rom. 7:23](#); [Gal. 5:17](#). [5] [Matt. 26:41](#); [Mk. 13:33](#). [6] [1 Thess. 3:13](#); [5:23–24](#); *[2 Cor. 12:7](#).

Q.128. How do you close this prayer?

A. “For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever;” that is, all this we ask of You, because as our King, having power over all things, You are willing and able to give us all good; and that thereby not we, but Your holy name may be glorified for ever.

[1] [Rom. 10:11–12](#); [2 Pet. 2:9](#). [2] [Jn. 14:13](#); [Ps. 115:1](#).

Q.129. What is the meaning of the word “Amen”?

A. “Amen” means: so shall it truly and surely be. For my prayer is much more certainly heard of God than I feel in my heart that I desire these things of Him.

[1] [2 Cor. 1:20](#); [2 Tim. 2:13](#); *[Ps. 145:18–19](#).

NT Reading: Mark 15:1-20

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. ² And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." ³ And the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴ And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." ⁵ But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed. ⁶ Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. ⁷ And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. ⁸ And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. ⁹ And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰ For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. ¹¹ But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. ¹² And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³ And they cried out again, "Crucify him." ¹⁴ And Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." ¹⁵ So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified. ¹⁶ And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. ¹⁷ And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. ¹⁸ And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹ And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. ²⁰ And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.