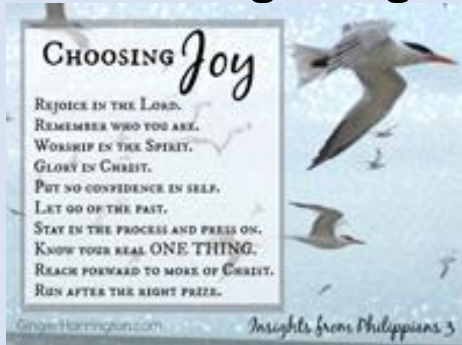


# Lesson 2 | December 13, 2020

## Everlasting Judgment or Everlasting Joy?



**Study Text:** Isaiah 34:1 through 35:10

**Central Truth:** God's judgment awaits all who rebel, but the redeemed of the Lord will experience everlasting joy.

### **Key Verse: Isaiah 35:10**

The ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away (KJV).

Those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away (NIV).

### **Learning Objectives**

- Acknowledge that all people are accountable to God and will face His judgment if they do receive His gift of salvation.
- Find encouragement that God works to redeem and restore those who submit to Him.
- Rejoice that God's people can live holy lives that are pleasing to Him.

## **Introducing the Lesson**

**Say:** In 2012, a judge sentenced a woman to hold up an embarrassing sign on a corner during rush hour traffic on two days. The sign said, "Only an idiot would drive on the sidewalk to avoid a school bus." **Ask:** "What do you think of the judge's unusual punishment?" (*Give your students a few minutes to express their opinions on this matter.*)

### **Opening Activity—And in Contrast . . .**

*Ask your students to name several contrasting circumstances, emotions, or beliefs, etc. (i.e., happy or sad). Jot them on the board, labeling each as good, bad, or neutral (not good or bad, just vastly different).*

**Say:** In today's study we are looking at one of the greatest contrasts that will ever be known — the outcome of rejecting God contrasted with the outcome of loving and serving Him. This great contrast is sobering because it is eternal, and it will impact every person who walks on earth. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Today's study focuses on God's judgment and His work to redeem and restore. God's just judgment should lead us to acknowledge that our response to God has eternal consequences, and then choose to follow Him. It should also motivate us to actively warn others of the coming judgment and tell them of God's redemptive plan to save them from that judgment.

## **Part 1—God's Judgment Against the Wicked**

### **God Will Destroy Wicked Nations**

Isaiah 34:1–4

**[Isa 34:1-17 KJV] 1 Come near, ye nations, to hear; and hearken, ye people: let the earth hear, and all that is therein; the world, and all things that come forth of it. 2 For the indignation of the LORD [is] upon all nations, and [his] fury upon all their armies: he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter. 3 Their slain also shall be cast out, and their stink shall come up out of their carcasses, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood. 4 And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling [fig] from the fig tree.**

**Say:** God has judged various people and nations, including His own chosen people, throughout the ages. But a **time of everlasting judgment is coming that no nation or individual will be able to avoid.** Just as God called all nations and peoples to hear Isaiah's message of the coming judgment on the enemies of God's people, it is important that His people today deliver the message of salvation to all peoples and nations, inviting them to accept His redemption and escape the coming judgment. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Isaiah 34 begins with a call for all people in all nations to **listen** to what God was announcing (verse 1). This speaks to the magnitude of the announcement as well as the breadth of its subject matter. **God pronounced His anger against all nations and their armies, for they were fighting against Him by fighting against His people** (verse 2). And so, God declared their total destruction. The phrase "utterly destroyed" (verse 2, KJV; "totally destroy," NIV) speaks of the non-revocable giving of things or persons over to destruction. Numbers 21:1–3 records the

**Israelites doing this with a city of the Canaanites, completely destroying it and its inhabitants.**

The description of the aftermath of God's judgment on the armies of the nations is graphic (Isaiah 34:3). It depicts the annihilation of these forces—thus more than just a major defeat. The dead bodies will be left unburied to rot and stink, and the blood will soak the mountains. It is truly a horrific scene.

**Isaiah's description adds further weight to the sovereignty and almighty nature of God, for His judgment will extend even to the heavens (verse 4). Like dried up leaves or withered figs fall to the earth, stars will fall when God's judgment is meted out. All of creation will be affected when God's wrath is poured out.** Jesus may well have been making reference to these events when He spoke of how the stars will fall from the sky and the heavenly bodies will be shaken (Matthew 24:29). The sixth seal, described in Revelation 6:12–14, also seems to allude to Isaiah's prophecy, for it speaks of stars falling like figs fall from a tree and the sky being rolled up like a scroll.

*[Rev 6:12-14 KJV] 12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; 13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. 14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.*

**God's judgment on the wicked will be certain and final.** Sadly, people may confuse God's patience with apathy toward wickedness or impotence to deal with it. To the contrary, however, **God's patience leaves open the opportunity for the wicked to repent so they need not face judgment for their sins.**

### ***Discuss***

? In your own words, describe the judgment of God upon wickedness.

? How do you reconcile the love of God and the judgment of God?

## God Will Judge the Enemies of His People

Isaiah 34:5–7

**[Isa 34:5-7 KJV] 5 For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment. 6 The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, [and] with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea. 7 And the unicorns shall come down with them, and the bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness.**

**Say:** The judgment of God awaited those who were enemies of His people. **Nothing could stop that judgment, and it would result in total devastation.** God had chosen the Children of Israel to be the lineage through whom the Messiah would come. He had promised them the land of Canaan as their home. Those nations who had persecuted them were singled out for judgment, especially the land of Edom. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

In Isaiah 34:5, the attention focuses in from God’s judgment on the nations to His judgment on Edom, a traditional and long-standing enemy of the Jewish people (Isaiah 34:5–7). **Edom is described as being set aside for total destruction, just as the armies of the nations were in verse 2. Leviticus 27:28 notes that sacrifices, once devoted to the Lord, cannot later be redeemed. They were deemed holy by God. Normally, people kill animals and offer them as sacrifices to God. But God likened the people of Edom to sacrificial animals—rams, goats, lambs, oxen, and bulls—to be offered as burnt offerings.** Isaiah’s vision again makes it clear this was not just another battle. The losses would be so devastating that the blood and fat of those slain would soak the battlefield..

### Resource Packet Item 1: Your View of God

Distribute the work sheet, and read the instructions with the class. If you feel that you have time now, give the students a few minutes to do the assignment. Otherwise, you may just want to discuss it orally and/or send it home with them for further reflection.

#### **Discuss**

? How do you react to the declaration and knowledge of God’s harsh judgment upon sinners in the future?

? Does knowing all people will be held accountable by God in the end affect how you live? Explain.

## **Part 2—Divine Retribution**

### **God Will Bring a Day of Vengeance**

Isaiah 34:8–15

**[Isa 34:8-15 KJV] 8 For [it is] the day of the LORD'S vengeance, [and] the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion. 9 And the streams thereof shall be turned into pitch, and the dust thereof into brimstone, and the land thereof shall become burning pitch. 10 It shall not be quenched night nor day; the smoke thereof shall go up for ever: from generation to generation it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it for ever and ever. 11 But the cormorant and the bittern shall possess it; the owl also and the raven shall dwell in it: and he shall stretch out upon it the line of confusion, and the stones of emptiness. 12 They shall call the nobles thereof to the kingdom, but none [shall be] there, and all her princes shall be nothing. 13 And thorns shall come up in her palaces, nettles and brambles in the fortresses thereof: and it shall be an habitation of dragons, [and] a court for owls. 14 The wild beasts of the desert shall also meet with the wild beasts of the island, and the satyr shall cry to his fellow; the screech owl also shall rest there, and find for herself a place of rest. 15 There shall the great owl make her nest, and lay, and hatch, and gather under her shadow: there shall the vultures also be gathered, every one with her mate.**

**Say:** The plan of God will always prevail. **Even the hatred of Edom toward the people of Judah and Jerusalem would not deter God's plan to bring His Son into the world through the lineage of Judah.** Yet today, working against God's plan and His people will always result in judgment. **God is longsuffering, so many years may elapse, but He will judge when the time is right.** (Share your highlights from the following text.)

The hostility between the Children of Israel and the Edomites was not a new development, but dates back to the Book of Genesis (25:19–34; see also Numbers 20:14–21). **The Edomites are the descendants of Esau, whose hatred of his brother Jacob is well documented. (See Genesis 27:41.) Even before the birth of Jacob and Esau, God had declared that the elder (Esau) would serve the younger (Jacob). The events of their lives and those of their descendants fulfilled this prophecy.**

The judgment Isaiah prophesied was the day of the Lord's vengeance on those who had been against His people (Isaiah 34:8). Edom again was singled out, and again the description of the judgment against it was overwhelming (verse 9). **What would take**

place would be like what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah (see Genesis 18–19). Edom would not recover from this judgment, as is evident from the statement the burning will not be quenched (Isaiah 34:10). Whereas a nation or people might recover over the course of generations, this would not be the case with Edom. Instead, the land of Edom would become a wilderness overgrown with thorns and brambles, inhabited only by animals (verses 11–15).

God would use the tools of an architect in His judgment: “The line of confusion, and the stones of emptiness” (verse 11, KJV). **Scripture elsewhere refers to the use of a plumb line or plummet as a tool of measurement for meting out His just judgment (see 2 Kings 21:13; Isaiah 28:17). God’s judgment is just and right— not merely angry retaliation or petty spite. In the case of the Edomites, they would reap what they had sown (see Obadiah 1:15). Why? Because they rejoiced over the fall of Judah and Jerusalem.** Furthermore, they would aid the enemies of God’s people and mistreat Jewish survivors (see Obadiah 1).

[Oba 1:1, 15 KJV] 1 The vision of Obadiah. Thus saith the Lord GOD concerning Edom; We have heard a rumour from the LORD, and an ambassador is sent among the heathen, Arise ye, and let us rise up against her in battle. ... 15 For the day of the LORD [is] near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head.

[Oba 1:15 KJV] 15 For the day of the LORD [is] near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head.

**They desired the desolation of the Jews’ homeland, so God pronounced that the land of Edom would become desolate.** For generations to come, the land of Edom would be given over as a home for wild animals (Isaiah 34:13–15).

### ***Discuss***

? What brought about the vengeance of the Lord upon Edom?

? Do you think most people believe God will judge them for how they have lived? Explain.

## **Retribution Is Sure**

Isaiah 34:16–17

**[Isa 34:16-17 KJV] 16 Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them. 17 And he hath cast the lot for them, and his hand hath divided it unto them by line: they shall possess it for ever, from generation to generation shall they dwell therein.**

**Say:** The destruction of Edom as a result of God’s judgment would be so complete that animals would take over its territory. While this seems extreme, those who rebel against God and mistreat others would do well to take God’s judgment of Edom into account. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

**The certainty of the judgment being pronounced against Edom specifically and the wicked nations of the world generally is made clear in Isaiah 34:16–17. The “book” (verse 16, KJV; “scroll,” NIV) of the Lord shows the record on the Lord’s pronouncement of this coming judgment. Any who would doubt that these things would come to pass was invited to read what Isaiah had written. In the time to come the accuracy of what God said would happen would become quite obvious. Everything would be fulfilled.**

**Edom would indeed become the home of wild animals. God said that this would take place. The lack of human inhabitants in the land is implied in the pronouncement that each animal would have its mate and that the animals would possess the land over the course of generations.**

#### **Resource Packet Item 2: Sure Judgment on Edom**

Distribute the work sheet and allow students to work in small groups to answer the questions. In the interest of time, you may want to assign one question to each group, then have them share their answers.

#### ***Discuss***

? What can we learn from Scripture’s record of the pronouncements of God’s judgment?

? What hope can Christians offer people who are fearful of facing God’s judgment?

## **Part 3—The Gladness of the Redeemed Restoration and Blessing for God’s People**

Isaiah 35:1–7

**[Isa 35:1-7 KJV] 1 The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. 2 It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, [and] the excellency of our God. 3 Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. 4 Say to them [that are] of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come [with] vengeance, [even] God [with] a recompence; he will come and save you. 5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. 6 Then**

**shall the lame [man] leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. 7 And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, [shall be] grass with reeds and rushes.**

**Say:** Here we move to the other side of the contrast of this study. The judgment God was bringing to the nations in general and to Edom in particular is contrasted with the restoration, healing, and provision He would bring to His people. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Isaiah 35 continues the prophecy of chapter 34. Whereas the previous chapter focused on the sure vengeance of God on the enemies of the Jewish people (Edom, in particular), chapter 35 speaks to the joy, security, and prosperity His people will have. This is a clear reminder that God desires to redeem and restore. **God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked. His desire is that the wicked would repent and live (Ezekiel 18:32).**

**Whereas Edom would become a desolate wilderness, the land of the Jewish people would be restored (35:1–2).** The fruitfulness and beauty of this restoration is likened to the blossoming of a “rose” (KJV) or “crocus” (NIV), bringing about rejoicing and gladness. This transformation will restore the majesty, beauty, and fertility of the land. The references to Lebanon, Carmel, and Sharon make this clear. The majestic cedar trees were the glory of Lebanon. Carmel was known for its beauty, and Sharon was renowned for its fertility and fruitfulness. The glory of God will again be evident in the restoration of the land.

**Based on the promises of God to avenge their enemies and restore His blessings to their land, the people can be encouraged (verses 3–4). Those who were overcome with fear at the current state of affairs could find strength to endure the future trials.** While Isaiah and other prophets had warned of God’s judgment on His people, they should not despair. Even in judgment God was working to redeem and restore.

This restoration would not only be evident in the transformation of the land but also in the healing of the people (verses 5–7). The blind, deaf, disabled, and mute would receive healing. **As far back as the Exodus, God had revealed himself to be the Healer (Exodus 15:26). As the people turned to God again, listening to Him and obeying Him, physical healing would be one of the many blessings they would enjoy.** The wholeness God will bring will extend to the land. Areas that were desolate and unproductive will be lush and fruitful.

### ***Discuss***

? In what ways does your hope in the Lord change your life??

? Why should joy be characteristic of those God has redeemed?



? How do you identify joy in yourself or in others?

## **The Way of the Redeemed**

Isaiah 35:8–10

**[Isa 35:8-10 KJV] 8 And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it [shall be] for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err [therein]. 9 No lion shall be there, nor [any] ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk [there]: 10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.**

**Say:** The people of Judah would still face a time of exile, brought on by their own rebellion; yet, there was the promise of everlasting joy ahead. Those who heard and believed Isaiah's prophecy would be able to cling to it throughout the time of exile. We too can look ahead to everlasting joy if we accept Jesus and live according to His will. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

**Isaiah 35 continues, in verse 8, by noting that a highway will provide access to the restored land. This too reflects the blessings of God on His people after their time of judgment. Although they would be taken as captives to foreign lands, when they turned back to God, they would return to their land.** The highway Isaiah described in this passage would be the way by which they would make their way back to the Promised Land. They could travel this road only if they were holy, living set apart to God.

**Tragically, those who continued in their sinful ways would not walk on this road. Nor would those who lived as fools, who did as they pleased with a disregard and disdain for God. We hear a similar message in the words of Jesus, who spoke of the broad road that leads to destruction and the narrow road that leads to life (see Matthew 7:13–14).**

For the holy, this highway will be a safe place (Isaiah 35:9). Wild beasts, which were often a danger when traveling, are not be a hazard on the way of holiness. This is yet another manifestation of the safety and well-being that would be found in the land when the Lord restored it—and His people to it—in their return from exile. Their redemption and restoration would result in gladness and rejoicing. The sorrows of captivity having been set aside, the people would rejoice in the goodness of God, for He had returned them to their homeland and restored them into right relationship with Him (verse 10).

**Resource Packet Item 3: Highway in Isaiah**

Distribute the work sheet and have someone read each passage aloud. Then, answer the questions as a class. Take time for a few people to respond to the personal response question at the end of the sheet.

### ***Discuss***

? Why do you think that the way that leads to destruction is wide, while the way leading to life is narrow?

? Describe what it means to live holy.?

? How does the holy living God asks of us differ from attempts at earning salvation by good works?

## **What Is God Saying to Us?**

**Say:** Isaiah's prophecy likely was not well received when he first gave it. If it had been, the people likely would have repented and the announced judgment averted. Perhaps even back then the certainty and severity of God's judgment was hard to accept. **Denial still seems to be a common way for people to deal with the reality that their response to God has eternal consequences. Some people put their hope in the idea that all religions ultimately lead to God, so being sincere in what one believes will lead to a positive ending. Others cling to the hope they have done more good than bad in their lives, so any judgment that might come in an afterlife will go in their favor. Yet Scripture is clear that there is only one true God who is the Judge of all. And He is the One who sent His Son to the earth to lay down His life so people would not be condemned. Salvation comes as people put their faith in Jesus and choose to follow Him. Those who choose Jesus learn to follow Him by turning away from their sinful ways and living to please God. As His people, we receive the blessings that come with living as children of God.**

## **Living It Out**

### **Ministry in Action**

- List people you know who are not believers and are, therefore, in danger of facing God's judgment..
- Take time every day to pray specifically for the people you have listed..
- Look for opportunities to share the joy of your salvation with one or more of the people you have listed.

## **Daily Bible Readings**

### **Monday:**

The Great Flood.

Genesis 6:9–17

**[Gen 6:9-17 KJV] 9 These [are] the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man [and] perfect in his generations, [and] Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. 11 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. 13**

And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. 14 Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. 15 And this [is the fashion] which thou shalt make it [of]: The length of the ark [shall be] three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits. 16 A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; [with] lower, second, and third [stories] shalt thou make it. 17 And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein [is] the breath of life, from under heaven; [and] every thing that [is] in the earth shall die.

#### **Tuesday:**

Passover Celebrated With Gladness.  
2 Chronicles 30:13–23

[2Ch 30:13-23 KJV] 13 And there assembled at Jerusalem much people to keep the feast of unleavened bread in the second month, a very great congregation. 14 And they arose and took away the altars that [were] in Jerusalem, and all the altars for incense took they away, and cast [them] into the brook Kidron. 15 Then they killed the passover on the fourteenth [day] of the second month: and the priests and the Levites were ashamed, and sanctified themselves, and brought in the burnt offerings into the house of the LORD. 16 And they stood in their place after their manner, according to the law of Moses the man of God: the priests sprinkled the blood, [which they received] of the hand of the Levites. 17 For [there were] many in the congregation that were not sanctified: therefore the Levites had the charge of the killing of the passovers for every one [that was] not clean, to sanctify [them] unto the LORD. 18 For a multitude of the people, [even] many of Ephraim, and Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves, yet did they eat the passover otherwise than it was written. But Hezekiah prayed for them, saying, The good LORD pardon every one 19 [That] prepareth his heart to seek God, the LORD God of his fathers, though [he be] not [cleansed] according to the purification of the sanctuary. 20 And the LORD hearkened to Hezekiah, and healed the people. 21 And the children of Israel that were present at Jerusalem kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days with great gladness: and the Levites and the priests praised the LORD day by day, [singing] with loud instruments unto the LORD. 22 And Hezekiah spake comfortably unto all the Levites that taught the good knowledge of the LORD: and they did eat throughout the feast seven days, offering peace offerings, and making confession to the LORD God of their fathers. 23 And the whole assembly took counsel to keep other seven days: and they kept [other] seven days with gladness.

#### **Wednesday:**

Jerusalem Captured and Burned.  
2 Chronicles 36:15–21

[2Ch 36:15-21 KJV] 15 And the LORD God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place: **16 But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till [there was] no remedy.** 17 Therefore he brought upon them the king of the Chaldees, who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion upon young man or maiden, old man, or him that stooped for age: he gave [them] all into his hand. 18 And all the vessels of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king, and of his princes; all [these] he brought to Babylon. 19 And they burnt the house of God, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem, and burnt all the palaces thereof with fire, and destroyed all the goodly vessels thereof. 20 And them that had escaped from the sword carried he away to Babylon; where they were servants to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia: 21 To fulfil the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths: [for] as long as she lay desolate she kept sabbath, to fulfil threescore and ten years.

Thursday:

Joyous Journey To See Jesus.

Matthew 2:1–11

[Mat 2:1-11 KJV] 1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, 2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. 3 When Herod the king had heard [these things], he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. 5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, 6 And thou Bethlehem, [in] the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. 7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found [him], bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. 9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, **the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.** 10 **When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.** 11 **And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.**

Friday:

Instructions for Holy Communion.

1 Corinthians 11:23–34

[1Co 11:23-34 KJV] 23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the [same] night in which he was betrayed took bread: 24

And when he had given thanks, he brake [it], and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. 25 After the same manner also [he took] the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink [it], in remembrance of me. 26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. 27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink [this] cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. 28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of [that] bread, and drink of [that] cup. 29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. 30 For this cause many [are] weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. 31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world. 33 Wherefore, my brethren, when ye come together to eat, tarry one for another. 34 And if any man hunger, let him eat at home; that ye come not together unto condemnation. And the rest will I set in order when I come.

Saturday:

Rejoicing in Heaven.

Revelation 19:1–8

[Rev 19:1-8 KJV] 1 And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: 2 For true and righteous [are] his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. 3 And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. 4 And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia. 5 And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. 6 And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. 7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. 8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.