

# The Moral Life

---



# Scripture Readings

This coming Sunday's Readings

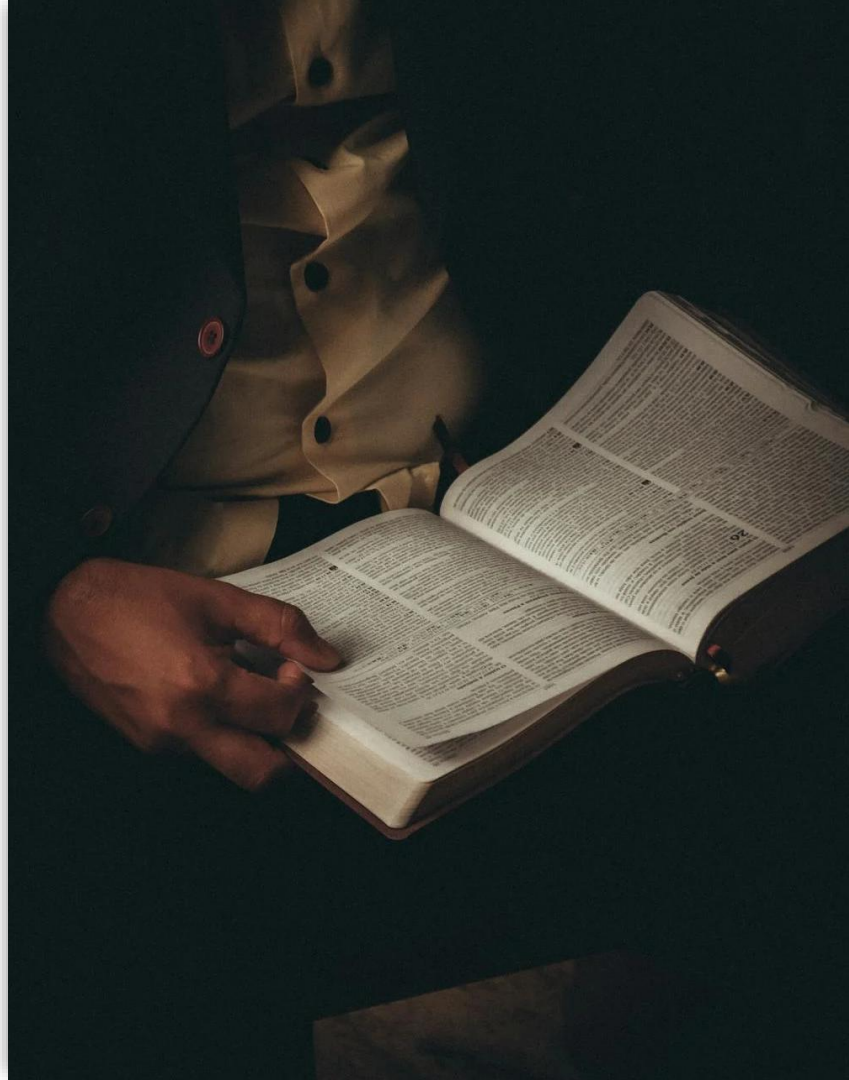
**Isaiah 25:6-9**

*The hope of the Lord is assured. He will deliver all the nations and take away their shame*

**Romans 5:5-11**

**Luke 7:11-17**

*Jesus raises the son of a destitute widow from the dead. The people recognise Him as a great prophet.*



# Scripture Reading

Even though we may turn away from God He never turns away from us. He is constantly reaching out to us.

God's love is poured out on us through Holy Spirit. The evidence of God's love is in the death of His son Jesus. Who died of His own free will, in our place, while we were still sinners.

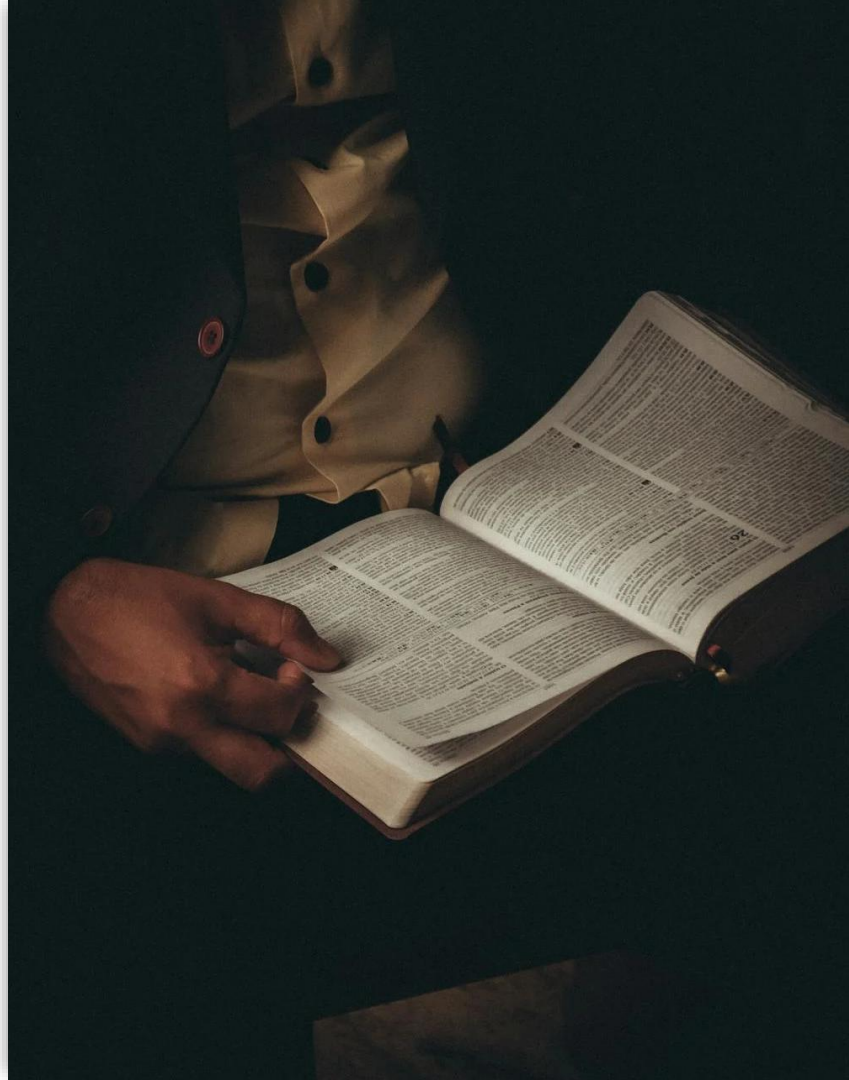
Jesus died to save us from sin and allow us to share in His perfect righteousness. Jesus is our reconciliation back to God.

---

**Isaiah 25:6-9** – Fortells that God will save all the nations

**Romans 5:5-11** – Unpacks salvation - The great love of Jesus in the cross and what it means for us.

**Luke 7:11-17** – Jesus demonstrates His divine compassion and saves a family from death. #prophecyfulfilled



# The Moral Life – How should I live?

- God & the Church's framework to maximize human flourishing
- The moral life includes rules that guide actions and the inclinations of our heart
- Splendour of Truth (*Veritatis Splendor*) Pope John Paul II – Living in a way that all our choices are ordered towards God.
- God allows us freedom to choose how we live – His moral life exists to guide our choices
- The moral life is based on what we find in the Bible

**Discussion** – Rules support freedom

# Biblical Foundation

- Moses & the escaping Israelites receive the 10 Commandments & make a covenant with God (Exodus 20:1-17)
- The law is to show them how to love God & allow them to flourish
- Spoiler – God allowed them to choose His life, and they chose not to over & over
- In Jesus lifetime the 'balance of the law' had be lost - our friends the Pharisees & Sadducees had concentrated on the letter of the law not the spirit or intent of it
- Jesus said He came to complete the law. Matthew 5 - exemplified in the Beatitudes (5:17-18) - good righteous actions flow from the heart.
- 1 John 2:1-11 - John explains that a follower of Jesus Christ lives out his commands because he/she loves him.

**Discuss** – There are physical laws that order the universe. Why not spiritual and moral ones?

# The Ten Commandments

- They are the basis for Jesus' & the Church's moral law
- The **First 3** are about relating to God
- The **following 7** are about human relationships
- The final 2 of which are **inner attitudes**

**Discuss** – Most of these seem obvious – right?

1. Do not serve other gods –put God first
2. Do not misuse God's name –don't misuse God's name
3. Honour the sabbath rest – follow God's example (Sunday for us)

---

4. Honour your Parents
5. Do not murder
6. Do not commit adultery
7. Do not steal
8. Do not lie
9. Do not covet\* your neighbour's things
10. Do not covet your neighbour's wife

\*Lust after obsessively desire

# Why ?

- To allow us to draw close to God out of love
- Jesus summarises the law and prophets – love God & love others
- True love seeks the flourishing and good of the other
- Christians follow and emulate Christ – He was a perfect model of morality loving us even by dying for us.

**Discussion** - Hurting myself doesn't hurt anyone else

# Image of God and His Law

If you were/are a parent, how would you/do you protect your child?

If God is our Father how does this make you think about the moral law differently?



Next Week's Chapter

Thursday Nove 6th

**Sin & Forgiveness**



## Closing Prayer

O' Merciful God, fill our hearts with graces of your Holy Spirit, with Love, Joy, Peace, Long Suffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, Temperance.

that we may be your children, our Father, who make your sun to shine on the evil and on the good and send rain on the just and on the unjust.

(St Anselm, 1033-1109)

Teach us to love those who hate us; to pray for those who despitefully use us;