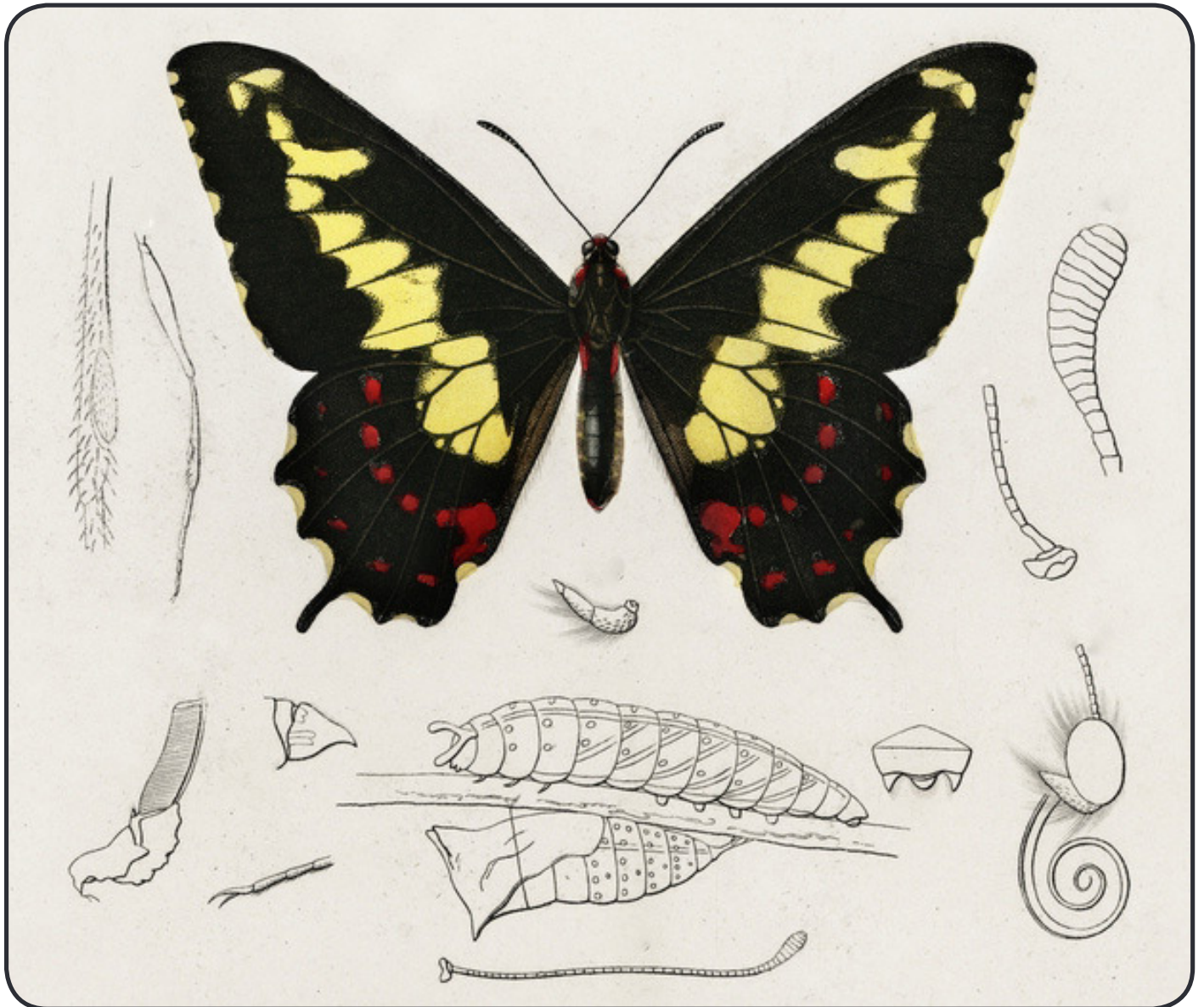


Metamorphosis

The marked change of form and structure through which an insect passes in its development from the egg. The various stages in the metamorphosis are known as larva (caterpillar), pupa (chrysalis), and adult or imago.



I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye **present your bodies a living sacrifice**, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but **be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Romans 12:1-2



スヅグロカバマダラ
 ノリウビシテウ
 ヤマキテウ
 オホゴマダラ
 イシカケテウ

All poetry and illustrations/photographs are in the public domain unless noted.

Sources:

- Butterflies* by Clarence M. Weed, Worth Knowing Series (1917)
Moths and Butterflies by Mary C. Dickerson, BS (1901)
Birds, Bees & Butterflies by Nancy J. Hajeski, National Geographic Partners (2016)
Butterflies of North America, Titian Peale's Lost Manuscript, American Museum of Natural History (2015)
 Smithsonian Institute website
www.raisingbutterflies.org
www.butterfliesandmoths.org
www.butterfliesofamerica.com
www.animaldiversity.org

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Thank you to Susanna Lewis for help with the verse lists and Mary Jane Styles for help with design and proof-reading.

Suggestions for using this planner:

WRITING OUT SCRIPTURE:

It is well known that using pen and paper helps us to remember things and use the information. Handwriting creates more complex feedback for our brains, stimulating memory. Just writing the verse down is good but taking a little time to think about it is even better.

1. Read through the verse for the day a few times, maybe in different versions.
2. Write the verse out in the space provided or summarize it in your own words.
3. Highlight parts that relate to the “I will” for the month.
4. Consider how you might use this verse in your words or actions today.

GETTING TO KNOW A BUTTERFLY:

The beautiful creation all around us is not just for our enjoyment, it is also for our instruction. Jesus often spoke in parables using the natural world around him for illustrations. Getting to know the other creatures that share this world with us can help teach us truths about ourselves and also helps us to be better stewards of Creation. For example, at one point in time, the connection between caterpillars and butterflies was not widely known. Many caterpillars were seen as pests and destroying them was not seen to be a problem, but as we are continually learning, everything in Creation is connected and the caterpillars that ate some crops, could also be the butterflies that pollinated others. Get to know the butterflies in your location and if you have a bit of land, or a few pots, make a garden for them.

PRAYING A PSALM:

It is possible to learn a lot about prayer from the Psalms. The Psalms can teach us to pray and also help to direct our emotions and our will. The following quotation from *The Psalms in Human Life*, written by Rowland E. Prothero illustrates this.

“In the Psalms is painted, for all time, in fresh unfading colours, the picture of the moral warfare of man, often baffled yet never wholly defeated, struggling upwards to all that is best and highest in his nature, always aware of how short of the aim falls the attempt, how great is the gulf that severs the wish from its fulfilment. In them we do not find the innocent converse of man with God in the Garden of Eden; if we did, the book would for our fallen natures lose its value. On the contrary, it is the revelation of a soul deeply conscious of sin, seeking, in broken accents of shame and penitence and hope, to renew personal communion with God, heart to heart, thought to thought, and face to face. It is this which gives to the Psalms their eternal truth. It is this which makes them at once the breviary and the viaticum of humanity. Here are gathered not only pregnant statements of the principles of religion, and condensed maxims of spiritual life, but a promptuary of effort, a summary of devotion, a manual of prayer and praise, —and all this is clothed in language, which is as rich in poetic beauty as it is universal and enduring in poetic truth.”

“The Psalms then are a mirror in which each man sees the motions of his own soul. They express in exquisite words the kinship which every thoughtful human heart craves to find with a supreme, unchanging, loving God, who will be to him a protector, guardian and friend. They utter the ordinary experiences, the familiar thoughts of men, but they give to these a width of range, an intensity, a depth and an elevation, which transcend the capacity of the most gifted. They translate into speech the spiritual passion of the loftiest genius, they also utter, with the beauty born of truth and simplicity, and with exact agreement between the feeling and the expression, the inarticulate and humble longings of the unlettered peasant.”

In the spirit of our wills being instructed by the Psalms, each of the Psalms chosen relates to the “I will” of the month. Here is what you could do with them:

1. Read slowly and think about what it is saying.
2. Read a phrase at a time and reflect on it, emphasize a different word each time.
3. Read in a different translation.
4. Listen to the Psalm put to music.
5. What is the background (author, event)?
6. What is the structure of the Psalm? Look for repetition, patterns, etc.
7. Highlight references to God including pronouns, and underline what God does.
8. Highlight references to the author (me, I), and underline what he does.
9. Insert your name to replace the Me and I.
10. Make lists from what you have underlined. Compare.
11. Look up cross-references.
12. Look up words.
13. Rewrite the Psalm in your own words and pray it to God.

THE LIFECYCLE OF A BUTTERFLY:


There are many changes in the world that happen so slowly we cannot experience them directly in our own lifetimes even though we can still be instructed by them as they demonstrate our own insignificance. The metamorphosis of a butterfly, however, is something every one of us can be witness to. How it begins so insignificantly as a tiny egg, lives as a caterpillar, and then becomes a butterfly, a creature that is associated with beauty, joy and happiness. Paul speaks of metamorphosis in Romans 12 where he speaks of the transformation of our minds. Hopefully considering the lifecycle of a butterfly will help us to understand how this change can take place within us.

THE LIFE OF JESUS:

This planner includes an excerpt from *The Life of Jesus* by Melva Purkis for each month. If you do not already have a copy of this book, I would highly recommend that you purchase your own copy so that you can read it in its entirety. You can find it at Christadelphian booksellers such as www.thechristadelphian.com. I have chosen to use this book because it is a study of the life of a man, the Lord Jesus, who did transform the human mind to prove what is the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God.

WORD STUDY:

Each of these words can help to transform our minds from one of self-will, to one subject to God's will. It seems prudent then to understand what each of these words mean and consider ways to make them part of our every day life. The questions are there to give you a starting point, but certainly not meant to be the only questions you can ask. Discover as much as you can about each word and let it transform your mind.



Perhaps you wonder what the connection might be between the will and butterflies. After all, a tiny caterpillar does not use the power of will to become a butterfly, but obeys its natural instinct and design and becomes one anyway. As persons, however, although God created us with design and purpose, we have the free will to choose whether we will stay “caterpillars” or become “butterflies”.

The will is the power by which a person chooses. Making choices is hard work and often people will just follow what everyone else is doing or whatever they feel like at the moment. It is in fact possible to live one’s life without really choosing at all by simply reacting to desires.

To live a life governed by will rather than want, one must have an aim beyond oneself. A will of this kind requires understanding the consequences of choices and choosing what aligns with this aim.

As followers of Christ, we do not want to be conformed to the world and its corruption, we want to be transformed into a new creature. This happens through a renewal of the mind as we get to know the good, acceptable and perfect will of God through the Scriptures.

By choosing to do what God would have us do, by following the example of His Son, we exchange our will for His, and we can become the new creation that God intended.

2022

JANUARY

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AUGUST

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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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I will...
WORSHIP



The Egg

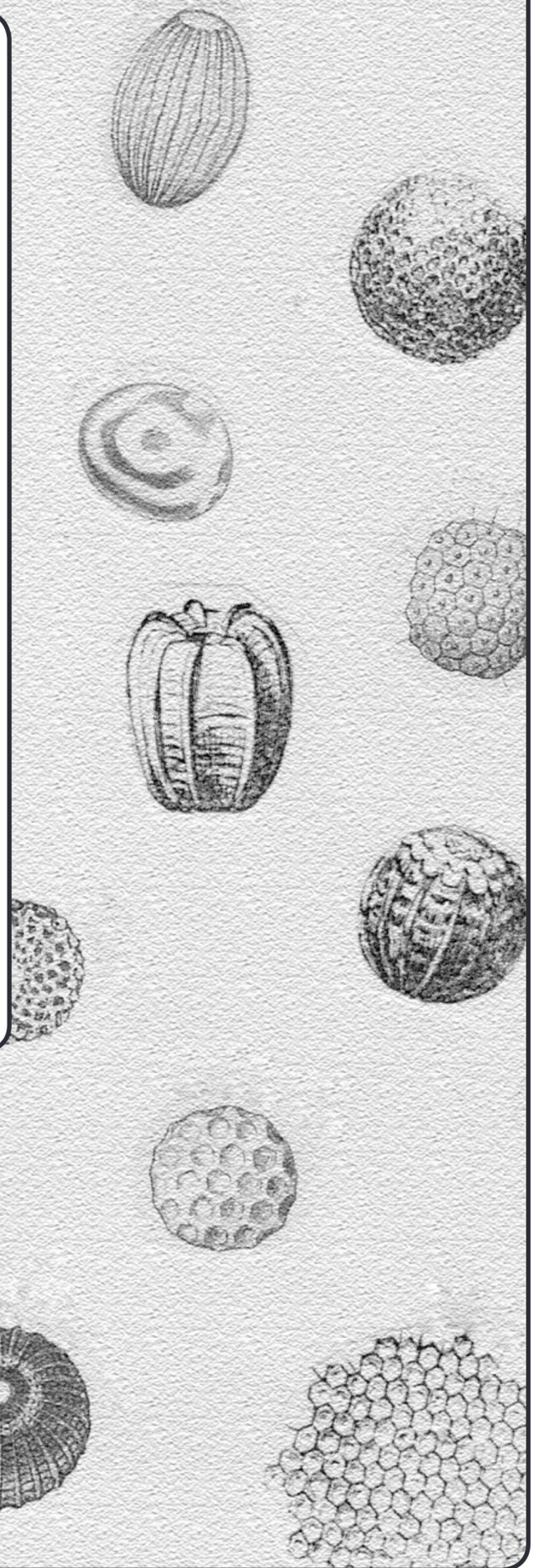
Every butterfly begins as a tiny egg only 1-3 mm in size. However, under a microscope the surface of the egg becomes a magnificent specimen of symmetry and intricate design. Some are ribbed, some are honeycombed, and some ornamented like a wicker basket. Each species has a unique design.

Depending on the species, a female butterfly may lay just a few, to hundreds of eggs on or near plants that the babies will eat. Some are laid in clusters, some stacked, and some singly. Some are laid on tops of leaves, some underneath, some hidden in tree bark, or on grass stems.

As an egg is laid it is covered with a sticky liquid that immediately glues it firmly to the leaf or stem. Those laid in warm weather hatch in a few days, but some eggs can also survive through a winter.

An egg starts out light coloured and darkens as it is ready to hatch. Then a small hole appears and a tiny caterpillar chews its way out and for its first meal consumes the egg shell.

Perhaps we can think of this as the beginning of a spiritual life: tiny, helpless, but beautiful and full of potential.



January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

Send a note to someone (special anniversaries, someone I am praying for, someone I am thinking of):



December/January

TO DO THIS WEEK:

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Thursday

30

Daily Tasks

Friday

31

Daily Tasks

Saturday Psalm 95:6-9

1

Daily Tasks



This is my Father's World

This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas
His hands the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world:
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world;
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world:
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong
God is the Ruler yet.

This is my Father's world:
Why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King: let the heaven's ring!
God reigns; let earth be glad!

Maltbie D. Babcock (1858-1901)

Wednesday 1 Timothy 6:15-16

5 Daily Tasks

Thursday Psalm 86:8-10

6 Daily Tasks

Friday Psalm 29:1-4

7 Daily Tasks

Saturday Philippians 3:3

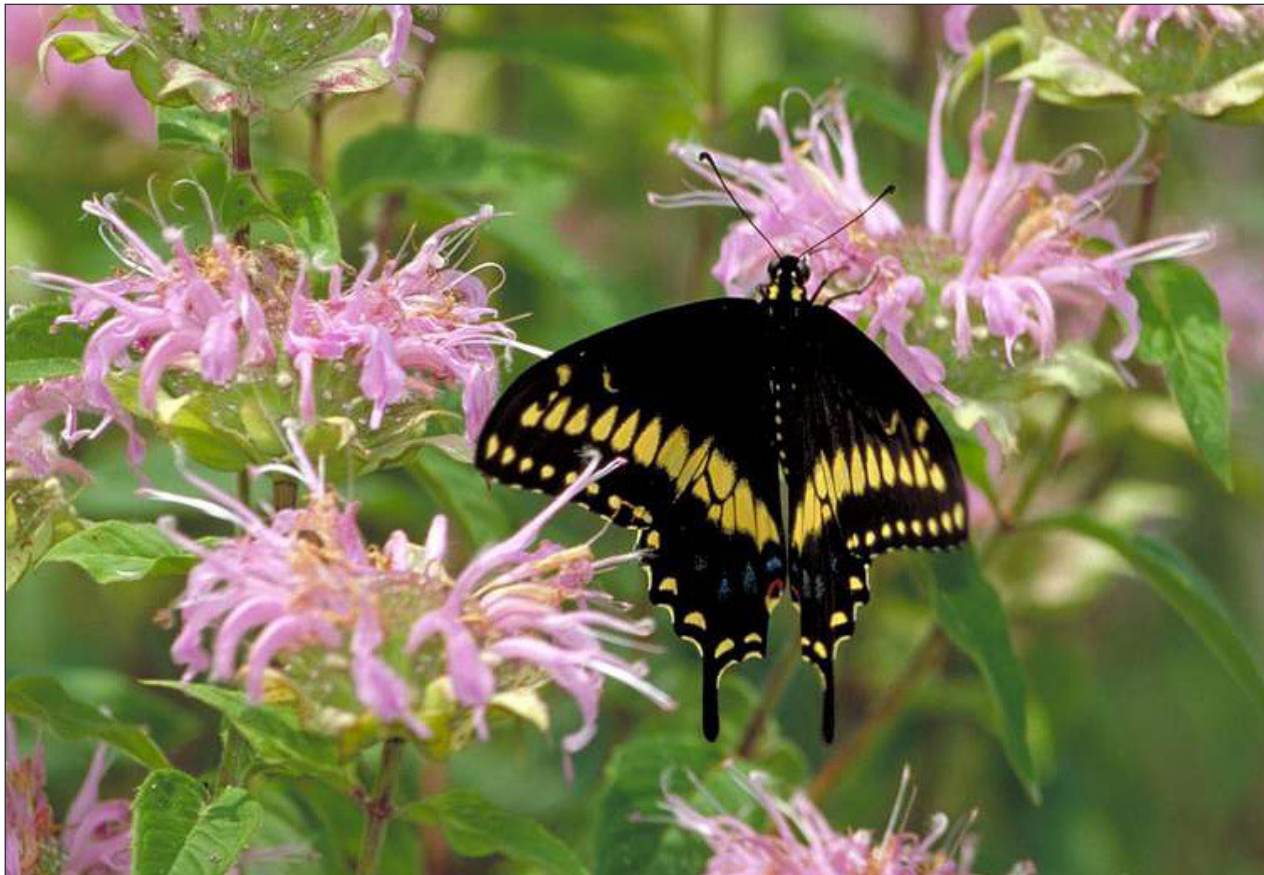
8 Daily Tasks

Get to know a butterfly

The Eastern Black Swallowtail

Family: *Papilionidae*

Latin name: *Papilio polyxenes*



The female butterfly lays each egg singly, a tiny pale yellow sphere, on the underneath of leaves on plants of the parsley family such as carrot, dill, parsnip, or fennel. A little black caterpillar with a white spot midway down hatches in eight to ten days. As it grows, and sheds its skin a few times, it becomes lime green with bands of black and spots of yellow or orange.

The caterpillar protects itself by a bad odour given off by two horns behind its head that pop up when it is agitated. They eat mostly at night, growing fast, and one day three to four weeks later, attach themselves to a stem with fine threads they create. They shed their skin one last time, and a greenish chrysalis is revealed looking much like a bit of wood. This stage can last a little less than two weeks in the summer, but will also last over the winter if it is later in the year.

Gradually the chrysalis turns black with rows of yellow spots, and then the covering splits and out comes the beautiful Swallowtail butterfly. An adult butterfly lives for six to fourteen days feeding on nectar from the flowers of milkweed, purple coneflower, bee balm, zinnia, phlox, and dill.

January

TO DO THIS WEEK:

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Sunday John 4:23-24

9 Daily Tasks

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Monday Isaiah 6:1-3

10 Daily Tasks

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Tuesday Psalm 96:4-6

11 Daily Tasks

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Wednesday 1 Chronicles 16:28-30

12 Daily Tasks

Thursday Psalm 22:27-28

13 Daily Tasks

Friday Revelation 4:9-11

14 Daily Tasks

Saturday Psalm 76:7-9

15 Daily Tasks

Psalm 97

(1) The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof.

(2) Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne.

(3) A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about.

(4) His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled.

(5) The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

(6) The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.

(7) Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all ye gods.

(8) Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O LORD.

(9) For thou, LORD, art high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods.

(10) Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.

(11) Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart.

(12) Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

Wednesday Mark 12:29-30

19

Daily Tasks

Thursday Mark 12:32-33

20

Daily Tasks

Friday Daniel 3:17-18

21

Daily Tasks

Saturday Daniel 4:34-35

22

Daily Tasks

January

TO DO THIS WEEK:

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Sunday Micah 4:1-2

23

Daily Tasks

Monday Deuteronomy 8:19-20

24

Daily Tasks

Tuesday Zechariah 14:8-9

25

Daily Tasks

Wednesday Hebrews 10:21-22

26 Daily Tasks

Thursday Matthew 15:7-9

27 Daily Tasks

Friday Revelation 15:3-4

28 Daily Tasks

Saturday Malachi 1:11

29 Daily Tasks
