

Happy Grandparent's Day!  
Lisa & Pastor Ben Metz  
Steven, Sara, & Ethan



Sunday, September 8, 2024

Scripture Reading: James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17

*If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door. —Milton Berle*

William Carey was highly educated and blessed with impressive linguistic skills. He was also a Christian, and while in India, he became passionate about making translations of the Bible in Bengali, Sanskrit and other languages and dialects. The tedium and stress of translation and the creation of dictionaries was enormous. The time required was unthinkable. Years, in fact.

And then something horrible happened. One spring day, whilst he was away from his station, a fire broke out, and all his work and that of his colleagues went up in flames. Everything Carey had accomplished including the manuscripts, grammars, dictionaries, buildings, printing presses and especially the Bibles — all in smoke and ashes. According to one source, “among the losses were many irreplaceable manuscripts, including much of Carey’s translation of Sanskrit literature and a polyglot dictionary of Sanskrit and related languages, which would have been a seminal philological work had it been completed.”

Can you imagine how Carey’s staff must have dreaded Carey’s return? They would need to explain how this had happened — how they had allowed this to happen!

Carey returned, and he was led to the site of the disaster. He knelt amid the smoking pile of rubble and thanked God that he still had strength enough to start over. Without a word of despair or anger, he immediately began to work.

Years later, he had not only replicated his earlier work, but he had also done a better job of it. His dictionaries, grammar books and translations of the Bible far surpassed the first effort.

This tragedy happened in 1812, more than 200 years ago. Thanks to William Carey’s patience and perseverance, he brought the Bible to untold millions of the Indian subcontinent.

Have you ever faced crushing disappointment — the kind of setback that sucks the wind out of your lungs and causes your heart to flutter in despair? One such story is the tale of the ancient patriarch Job who suffered the loss of everything — his children, his friends and all of his material wealth. He even suffered the loss of his health, and he was in danger of losing his faith in God.

This is the danger of adversity: since we usually need someone or something to blame, we often turn our anger on God. Job did. But he recovered to assert that through it all he had learned that his Redeemer lived and that he was learning to trust in God.

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: In my dark nights of the soul, let me still sense your presence. Amen.*

## Bible Cryptogram

### Daily Bible Readings

**Sunday:** 1 Thessalonians 1-5

**Monday:** 2 Chronicles 7-9

**Tuesday:** 2 Chronicles 10-13

**Wednesday:** 2 Chronicles 14-16

**Thursday:** 2 Chronicles 17-19

**Friday:** 2 Chronicles 20-22

**Saturday:** Psalms 100-102

Try to fill in the answer key (alphabet row) with numbers. We have given you one vowel and one consonant. For example, everywhere you see the number 1, you know it is an O and can fill in the squares above all number 1 boxes with an O. Hint: Look for two- and three-letter words. These common words are a good place to start.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
														1				22							

13	12	7		6	20	16	22	22		26	11	13	12	7	20	22							13	12	7
2	5	1	26	7	20		2	16	18	7	22		25	15	13		13	12	7						
26	1	20	18		1	2		1	15	20		6	1	18		26	11	5	5						
22	13	16	24	18		2	1	20	7	14	7	20													

ISAIAH 40:8

*Verse to Remember*  
*O sing to the LORD a new song,*  
*for he has done marvelous things.*

—Psalm 98:1

September 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					