



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

*Daily Devotion at Zion + October 2021 AD + **Pentecost Season***

Is Jesus Real To Me?

It's a question worth asking.

You don't want to be harder on yourself than Jesus is—your friend and savior, Jesus, who says, "Come to me, all who are weary and heavy laden" (Matthew 11:28). But you do want to pause now and then and consider: has Jesus become a mere idea to me? Has He become a principle or promise only, a story that is comforting, or a justification for something that isn't right? Is Jesus, for me, a *person*, a man, my God?

Devotion helps to answer that question with "yes," and to nourish the "yes" into a way of life.

Devotion doesn't simply "hear the Word." It listens to the Word in the conviction that this Word is His true, human voice, speaking to the Church, to me, and to the world. Devotion prays in the same conviction: *He is listening to me, right now*. Here is where the faith becomes personal, in two directions: it's not only personal in the sense of "meaningful to me," but even more importantly, it's personal because it approaches our Lord in the conviction that He is a living, Spirit-breathing person.

Jesus is the most real person you'll ever meet. When faith takes up the way of daily devotion, it makes His personal reality yours.

About the Cover Art

This image may not be the most welcoming image of Jesus, with His eyes gazing away from us and His face drawn and severe. Yet maybe it beckons us to Jesus, and to the deeper mystery of His life, in a way we don't expect. A Russian icon from the 1100s A.D., this icon presents the face of Christ to us as He journeys towards the cross. His eyes do not look on you, because His focus is centered elsewhere, on top of that lonely hill, where He is determined to go. At the same time, there is a gentleness to the lines of His face, recalling the grace of His ministry and preaching. Here, truly, is the real Man, willing and committed to die for you.

Daily Readings for the Week of Pentecost 19 (October 3)

S 2 Kings 4:8-37
Acts 9:10-31
Luke 3:7-18

Th 2 Kings 9:1-16
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

M 2 Kings 5:1-19
1 Corinthians 4:8-21
Matthew 5: 21-26

F 2 Kings 9:17-37
1 Corinthians 7:1-9
Matthew 6:7-15

T 2 Kings 5:19-27
1 Corinthians 5:1-8
Matthew 5:27-37

Sa 2 Kings 11:1-20a
1 Corinthians 7:10-24
Matthew 6:19-24

W 2 Kings 6:1-23
1 Corinthians 5:9—6:11
Matthew 5:38-48

These readings correspond to pages 915– 950 in Volume II of For All the Saints.

Daily Readings for the Week of Pentecost 20 (October 10)

S 2 Kings 17:1-18
Acts 9:36-43
Luke 5:1-11

Th 2 Kings 18:28-37
1 Corinthians 9:1-15
Matthew 7:22-29

M 2 Kings 17:24-41
1 Corinthians 7:25-31
Matthew 6:25-34

F 2 Kings 19:1-20
1 Corinthians 9:16-27
Matthew 8:1-17

T 2 Chronicles 29:1-3;
30:1-27
1 Corinthians 7:32-40
Matthew 7:1-12

Sa 2 Kings 19:21-36
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Matthew 8:18-27

W 2 Kings 18:9-25
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Matthew 7:13-21

These readings correspond to pages 950-983 in Volume II of For All the Saints.

Daily Readings for the Week of Pentecost 21 (October 17)

S 2 Kings 20:1-21
Acts 12:1-17
Luke 7:11-17

Th 2 Kings 23:4-25
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
Matthew 9:18-26

M 2 Kings 21:1-18
1 Corinthians 10:14—
11:1
Matthew 8:28-34

F 2 Kings 23:36—24:17
1 Corinthians 12:12-26
Matthew 9:27-34

T 2 Kings 22:1-13
1 Corinthians 11:2-22
Matthew 9:1-8

Sa Jeremiah 35:1-19
1 Corinthians 12:27—
13:3
Matthew 9:35—10:4

W 2 Kings 22:14—23:3
1 Corinthians 11:23-34
Matthew 9:9-17

*These readings correspond
to pages 983-1018 in Vol-
ume II of For All the Saints.*

Daily Readings for the Week of Pentecost 22 (October 24)

S Jeremiah 36:1-10
Acts 14:8-18
Luke 7:36-50

Th Jeremiah 38:1-13
1 Corinthians 14:26-40
Matthew 10:34-42

M Jeremiah 36:11-26
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Matthew 10:5-15

F Jeremiah 38:14-28
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Matthew 11:1-6

T Jeremiah 36:27—37:2
1 Corinthians 14:1-12
Matthew 10:16-23

Sa Jeremiah 52:1-34
1 Corinthians 15:12-29
Matthew 11:7-15

W Jeremiah 37:3-21
1 Corinthians 14:13-25
Matthew 10:24-33

*These readings correspond
to pages 1018-1049 in Vol-
ume II of For All the Saints.*