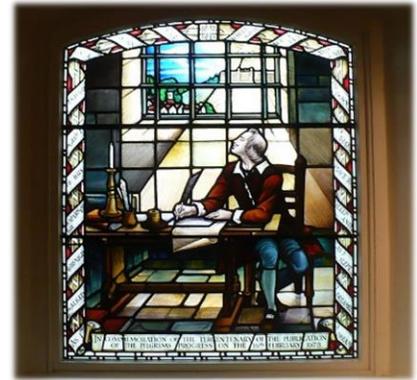


May 2, 2020

## Good afternoon, Everybody.

Welcome to the last day of the week; the seventh day. God's creative work began on the first day of the week (our Sunday). It continued through six days, and then on the seventh day *He rested from all His work which He had done* (Genesis 2:2).



Our work week, however, begins on its *second* day (Monday). Resulting, of course, in today's being our sixth for labor, though it is the week's seventh.

But what that means in the weekly rhythm of the New Covenant is that once we finish today, tomorrow is all smiles. We rest from all our work which we have done. No sweat of the brow, no *thorns and thistles* for a whole day!

Almost every Lord's Day (probably **every** Lord's Day), my mind involuntarily recalls the first line of one of John Newton's *Olney Hymns*.

**Safely through another week** (emphasis mine),  
God has brought us on our way;  
Let us now a blessing seek,  
Waiting in His courts today.

Day of all the week the best,  
Emblem of eternal rest.  
Day of all the week the best,  
Emblem of eternal rest. (John Newton)

The first day of the week, the Lord's Day, actually does require a good deal of labor in the forms of service which we render to the Lord; just as the sabbath did for the priests and Levites. But for them, it was apparently no contradiction to the intent and rightful use of the day. *Have you not read in the Law, that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple break the Sabbath and are innocent* (Matthew 12:5)?

So for us, serving the LORD God on the first day of the week, though it is often demanding bodily, should be a joy of joys. *I love my master*, a slave of old was given the lawful right to claim, *I will not go out as a free man* (Exodus 21:5). He could have. He could have gone out as a *free man*; that is, as a man now liberated to do as he pleased. But he was also given the right, the legal right, to choose differently. And if he did, his master could not refuse him. The master was bound to keep him; to shelter, clothe, feed, protect, and make use of him.

Why would a slave choose to remain a **slave** (!)? Because he'd been treated so well by his new master, that he had come to *love* him. Far, far better to love and serve than to turn from loving and being loved in order to run free with abandon.

Would **you** not rather be a *doorkeeper* (which did require time, attention, and responsibility) on the Lord's Day than to turn yourself free to ramble lazily about *in the tents of wickedness* (Psalm 84:10)? And remember, the Book of Psalms knows of only *two* groups of people, not *three*. Don't let your mind begin to imagine and covet a pleasant group of the in-between; not doorkeepers, but not exactly wicked either. God apparently doesn't know of such an imaginary category.

### **Psalms Study Tomorrow Night**

I'm including with this letter a one page worksheet for tomorrow night. You'll be able to follow the sermon without it, but you'll get much more out of it if you'll use it (smile). I'd suggest printing a hard copy for each person in your family, even the children. Those that can't yet write will still feel a part if they have their own copy, and they can mark it up however they please!

### **Our Folks**

I thought you'd enjoy a few more pictures of our folks gathering for the Lord's Day services. You've been seeing the Boyd family when they lead us in congregational singing for the live streaming. But here's the whole bunch gathered at home for a service. David and Jennifer "adopted" four college students when the University shut the campus down. See if you know them. They could probably use some e-mail. You know how millennials are. *Very* relational (smile).



And here is Nathan and Holly Dion's little congregation, *Ashlyn, Kurt, and Zoe* (*Finn* must be in the nursery; praise the Lord for the *doorkeepers* of the nurseries!).



And here's a great one of the Kecks. Did Jesse install a drone in their ceiling? If anyone could, it'd be Jesse (smile).

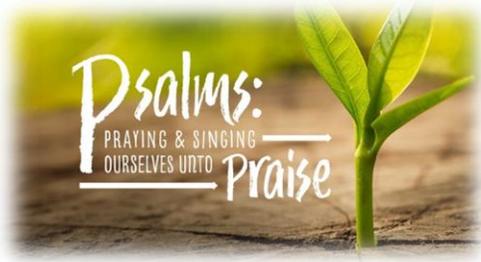


Finally, another Lord's Day desire from George Swinnock's, *Good Wish about the Lord's Day*.

*Oh let me not, like Martha, be careful and troubled about many things, but on this day especially sit at Christ's feet, mind the one thing necessary, and choose the good part which shall never be taken from me.*

Praying for You Every Day, but especially on the Lord's Day,

Pastor Minnick



# Psalm 3 Worksheet

<i>V.</i>	<i>Line</i>	<i>Colon</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Genre</i>
3:1	1	1	Foes	
		2	Foes	
3:2	2	3	_____	
		4	_____	
3:3	3	5	_____	Assertional Assertional
		6	_____	
3:4	4	7	_____	Actional
		8	_____	
3:5	5	9	David	_____
		10	_____	
3:6	6	11	David	
		12	_____	
3:7	7	13	_____	Petitional
		14	the LORD	
	8	the LORD	_____	
3:8	9	15	the LORD	Actional
		16	the LORD	
	17	the LORD	_____	
		18	the LORD	_____