

Background to scripture readings in October

For Sunday October 11

Joel 2:21-27

Previously Joel has described Palestine being invaded by a devastating plague of locusts and called the people to repent so that God will spare them on the Day of the Lord.

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Paul offers instructions on prayer and the role of Jesus as mediator between God and us.

Matthew 6:25-33

As part of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches that people can be overcome by anxiety and fail to put God and his Kingdom first in their lives.

For Sunday October 18

Job 38:1-7,(34-41): Job finds out that while he and his friends thought they understood the world... they do not.

Hebrews 5:1-10: We have been told that, in Jesus, “we have a great high priest” who has been raised to heaven. Now the high priests of Judaism are compared with Jesus.

Mark 10:35-45: Once again, Jesus' followers squabble about getting power. Jesus teaches them, yet again, about his radically different concept of power in God's kingdom.

For Sunday October 25

Job 42:1-6,10-17 At the time of Job, possessions and offspring indicated God's favour: God loves Job even more dearly after his ordeals.

Hebrews 7:23-28 The author has told us that, in Jesus, we have a great high priest. Now he tells us how our high priest differs from the Temple priests of old.

Mark 10:46-52 As Jesus and the disciples leave Jerusalem, blind Bartimaeus proclaims Jesus' identity as descendant of David/messiah. He sees, better than Jesus' disciples, the true nature of Jesus.