



Light for my Path

UECM Bible Reading and Devotion Guide

OLD TESTAMENT
- Book 1 -

Genesis 1 – 2

Day 1

By what means did God create heaven and earth and everything in it? What is the difference between the invention of man and the creation of God? What is the purpose of God creating human beings? Take a few minutes to worship the almighty God.

Genesis 3

Day 2

What was the result of Adam and Eve's sin? How did they respond to God after sinning? When God drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden, was it for their punishment or for their protection (v.22)? Take time to thank God for His grace even when we deserve punishment.

Genesis 4

Day 3

In Genesis 4, we see sin starting to destroy God's creation. What is the sin described in Genesis 4? How many times did that particular sin occur in this chapter? What devastation does the sin of man bring? Let us confess and repent from our sins.

Genesis 5 – 6

Day 4

Genesis 5 records the lineage of Seth. Aside from showing that man is able to reproduce, what is the other motif that you can observe (cf. Romans 6:23)? Who was the only person that did not experience death? Why (5:22-24)? What spiritual lessons can you learn?

Genesis 7 – 8

Day 5

God is determined to destroy the earth because of its violence and corruption (ch.6). Why do you think man's sin called for this drastic tragedy? Was there grace in the midst of this catastrophe? What do you learn about God's holiness and grace?

Genesis 9

Day 6

The command "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth" appears twice (v.1, v.7). Why is this command important (cf. Genesis 1:22, 28)? After the command, what kind of covenant did God establish with Noah and his family? How faithful is God to you? Spend time to worship God for His faithfulness.

Genesis 10 – 11

Day 7

Genesis 10 records the expansion of the human race. And Genesis 11:1-9 shows that the great flood did not eradicate man's sinfulness. What sin was described in this passage? How did God judge this particular sin? Is there any pride in your heart that hinders your walk with God?

Genesis 12

Day 8

This famous chapter recounts the call of Abram from Haran. What did God promise? Is God true to His word and promises? What experience have you had that testified to God's faithfulness? Remember to give thanks to God.

Genesis 13

Day 9

Why was there strife between Abram and Lot? In many Asian cultures, it is customary for the elderly to choose or take the better part. Why did Abram allow Lot to choose first? What was the promise of God to Abram in vv.14-17? Have you been mistreated lately? Did you respond with Christ-like attitude?

Genesis 14 – 15

Day 10

God has called and given a promise to Abram earlier (ch.12). Why did Abram become afraid (14:8-16)? What specific promise did God give to Abram (15:1-5)? Based on Genesis 15:6, how were people saved in the Old Testament? Worship God for His daily grace of salvation, forgiveness, and blessing?

Genesis 16

Day 11

Sarai's action might not have been due to lack of faith as much as lack of patience with God in fulfilling His promise. God did not promise that the heir will come from her until Genesis 17. Have you been impatient with God? Have you ever tried to question God's timing? What faith lessons have you learned?

Genesis 17

Day 12

Notice the word "everlasting." How many times does it appear? What is the meaning and significance of the covenant sign of circumcision? What do you learn about God? Take a moment to worship Him.

Genesis 18

Day 13

Sarah laughed in private, not in the presence of God. God knew, however, and asked, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" Have you ever doubted God's Word and His promises? Do you truly believe that anything is possible if God wills it?

Genesis 19

Day 14

How did God punish the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah? Why does God hate sin so much? Do you hate sin as much as God hates sin?

Genesis 20 – 21

Day 15

In Genesis 20, God protected Abraham and his family. In Genesis 21, God fulfilled His covenant promise to Abraham. God is faithful to keep His Word. He has promised believers that “[He] will not leave you nor forsake you” (Hebrews 13:5). Have you experienced God’s gracious protection? When and how?

Genesis 22

Day 16

If you were in Abraham’s shoes, would you sacrifice your son? See Hebrews 11:19 and learn why Abraham was able to sacrifice His son. Abraham believed God. This faith was founded on his knowledge of God. Do you know and believe God the same way Abraham did?

Genesis 23

Day 17

In Abraham's time, it was important to be buried in one's native land. Abraham buried Sarah in the land God had promised him, proving that he placed his hope entirely in God's promise. Eventually, he himself, Isaac, and Rebekah would be buried here too. Is God your hope? What actions have you taken to show that?

Genesis 24

Day 18

The main character in this chapter is God. He sovereignly directed all things to happen. Do you believe that God is in sovereign control? Do you trust that He will make everything beautiful in His time? Do you trust Him with your life? Take a moment to evaluate your faith in God.

Genesis 25

Day 19

This chapter records the succession of the covenant promise from Abraham to Isaac, and then to Jacob. Every time these three names are mentioned in the Bible, we are reminded of a faithful, covenant-keeping God. Are you faithful in your relationships, ministry, and tasks that God has called you to do?

Genesis 26

Day 20

How many times do you see the covenant that God made with Abraham repeated to Isaac? Why did Abimelech want to make a covenant with Isaac (vv.27-29)? Have you experienced God's grace and providence? Have others seen Christ in you because of what Christ did in your life?

Genesis 27

Day 21

Jacob deceived his father in order to obtain God's covenant blessing. Do you think God would bless Jacob even without Jacob's resorting to deception? What did Jacob's deception do to the family? What other lessons have you learned?

Genesis 28

Day 22

Was Isaac's blessing to Jacob similar to God's blessing to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3)? What have you learned about God? How did Jacob's attitude change after his dream experience? Is the God of Jacob the same God you worship? How should you worship God?

Genesis 29

Day 23

Jacob tasted his own medicine of treachery from Laban. Do you agree with the principle of divine retribution—that “what a man sows, he reaps” (Galatians 6:7)? Unfortunately, Jacob was not the only believer who needed a Laban to discipline him. Have you experienced God’s discipline?

Genesis 30

Day 24

Each of Jacob’s sons had a name that reflected the family conditions. Note that Jacob loved Rachel, yet God chose the despised Leah to produce two important tribes: Judah and Levi. What is the condition of your family and your life? Is it pleasing to God?

Genesis 31

Day 25

What kind of blessing and protection did God provide for Jacob? Why did God continue to bless and guide Jacob? Can you recount a time when God protected you from harm or possible disaster?

Genesis 32

Day 26

Before Jacob was about to meet Esau, he wrestled with a man at the brook. What was the reason that Jacob would not let go of the man? What was the significance of Jacob changing his name to Israel? Have you ever struggled with God? In your struggle, did you come to know and experience God deeper?

Genesis 33

Day 27

This is a great story of reunion and forgiveness. Why was Jacob afraid of Esau? Are you ever afraid of anyone, or even God, because of something wrong you did? Have you asked for forgiveness? Have you experienced the joy of forgiveness and reconciliation with God?

Genesis 34 – 35

Day 28

Jacob's sons took revenge for their sister who had been raped (34:25). Afterwards, Jacob and his family had to flee from their enemies. How did God protect them (35:5)? Was God's promise to Jacob in 35:9-13 the same promise He gave to Abraham (see Genesis 12; 15)?

Genesis 36

Day 29

In this chapter we have a record of the generations of Esau. Notice that Esau's wives were all Canaanites. God had forbidden Abraham and his descendants to intermarry with Canaanite women. Why did God do so? Do you trust and obey God?

Genesis 37 – 38

Day 30

Observe the betrayal and treachery of Joseph's brothers. Have you been betrayed? Have you forgiven those who have sinned against you? Just look at the cross—our greatest betrayal. There our sins were placed on Christ, who knew no sin (2 Corinthians 5:21). Let us learn to forgive.

Genesis 39

Day 31

How would you describe Joseph's temptation by Potiphar's wife? What did Joseph do in light of her advancement? What were the good and bad results of Joseph's fleeing from temptation? What did God eventually bring about by Joseph's imprisonment? What lessons did you learn about God and obedience?

Genesis 40

Day 32

Joseph interpreted the dream of Pharaoh's cupbearer, but sadly, the cupbearer did not remember Joseph before Pharaoh. It took another two years for Joseph to be released. If you were Joseph, how would you feel and react? Would you murmur against God? What is the proper Christian response when things do not go as planned?

Genesis 41

Day 33

Joseph acknowledged that his gift of interpreting dreams came from God (40:8; 41:16, 25). What happened to Joseph after he accurately interpreted Pharaoh's dream? God has a comprehensive plan for you and for the world. Are you submitting to the will of God? Are the gifts God gave you put into good use for God's glory?

Genesis 42

Day 34

Has someone taken advantage of you? Have you considered vengeance? Remember, God is just and He will not let evil go unpunished (Proverbs 11:21). Will you wait patiently for the Lord and behave in a godly manner even when you suffer injustice?

Genesis 43 – 44

Day 35

Here is the fulfillment of Joseph's dream—that of his brothers bowing down to him. If you were Joseph, would you have imagined these things happening? What have you learned about God and His plans? Spend a moment to worship Him.

Genesis 45

Day 36

Joseph forgave his brothers because he saw beyond the evil that was done to him and witnessed God's glorious plan of salvation (vv.5; 7-8). Is there anyone that you need to forgive? As God has forgiven our sins, let us forgive those who sin against us (Matthew 6:12).

Genesis 46 – 47

Day 37

When Jacob left Canaan, God blessed him (46:2-4). When Jacob stood before Pharaoh, he blessed Pharaoh (47:7, 10). This is a timeless principle: as God has graciously blessed us, He also calls us to be a blessing to others. The greatest blessing we have received is Jesus Christ. Have you shared Jesus Christ to someone lately?

Genesis 48

Day 38

When Jacob blessed Joseph, he described God as (1) the God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, (2) the God who has been my shepherd, and (3) the angel who has redeemed me from all evil (vv.15-16). What can we learn about God from these descriptions? Have you experienced God in those ways?

Genesis 49

Day 39

The blessings that Jacob made to his sons elaborated on the covenant that God made with Abraham in Genesis 12-15. Thus, the source of Jacob's blessing and life was God. What is your source of life and blessing?

Genesis 50

Day 40

In response to his brothers' fear of vengeance, Joseph said, "You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good" (v.20). This principle will teach us how to forgive. Can you see God's goodness in the midst of great evil?

Exodus 1 – 2

Day 41

Exodus 1-2 record the fulfillment of God's prophecy in Genesis 15:13-16. Notice Exodus 2:24-25. Why would God save the Israelites from slavery in Egypt? What have you learned about God?

Exodus 3

Day 42

God told Moses His name: "I Am Who I Am" (v.14). It revealed that God is self-existent. He is also faithful in His relationship to His people (v.15). What else have you observed about God? What kind of God do you serve and worship?

Exodus 4 – 5

Day 43

Observe Moses' attitude and behavior when God called Him. In 5:22-23, how did Moses react as he faced difficulties? God had revealed time and again His power to Moses, yet his doubts and weaknesses remained. Can you identify with Moses? Do you think God's grace abounds in our weaknesses?

Exodus 6

Day 44

One of the problems perceived by Moses was his lack of eloquence (4:10; 6:12, 30). God, nevertheless, still used him for His glory. What are some of your perceived weaknesses that might hinder you from obeying and serving God? Do you think those weaknesses matter to God as much as your love and obedience towards Him?

Exodus 7

Day 45

Moses left Egypt when he was 40 years old. When God called him back to Egypt to lead the Israelites, Moses was already 80 years old and Aaron was 83 years old (v.7). God calls and uses people regardless of their age. The important factor is willingness to serve Him. Are you willingly serving God?

Exodus 8

Day 46

God inflicted ten plagues on Pharaoh and the Egyptians. The first was turning the Nile water into blood, the second was frogs, the third gnats/lice, and the fourth flies. Of these, the magicians were able to duplicate only the first two plagues. What spiritual lessons have you learned about God and the human heart?

Exodus 9 – 10

Day 47

The fifth plague was disease on livestock, the sixth boils, the seventh hail, the eighth locust, and the ninth darkness. What do you think happened to the economy and people of Egypt after these plagues? What lessons have you learned?

Exodus 11

Day 48

The first nine plagues were direct attacks on the Egyptian gods. The tenth plague, however, was also directed at Pharaoh—who claimed to be a god—by taking the life of his firstborn son. There is no god like Yahweh. Do you serve other gods in your life? What kind of service and worship do you offer to Yahweh?

Exodus 12

Day 49

Notice the detailed instructions on the first Passover—the time, the date, the Passover lamb. What is the meaning of Passover (vv.11-12)? What kind of lamb is required for the Passover? In what way was Christ the Passover Lamb (cf. 1 Corinthians 5:7)?

Exodus 13

Day 50

Why did God command Israel to celebrate the Passover annually? What were the people to do during Passover? How did the Lord protect them in their travel from Egypt to the Promised Land (vv.21-22)? Recall how God has saved you from sin and death, and spend a moment in thanksgiving and worship.

Exodus 14

Day 51

Why did the Lord change the direction of Israel's travel (vv.1-4)? How did the Israelites react when they saw Pharaoh and his army? How did God deliver Israel? Have you ever experienced God's deliverance? When in trouble, do you murmur and blame others, or do you continue to trust God?

Exodus 15

Day 52

How was God portrayed in Israel's song (vv.1-21)? Three days after crossing the Red Sea, the Israelites started to grumble for lack of water. How did God provide for their needs? Notice how quickly the Israelites turned from praise to grumble. Can you identify with the Israelites? Do you tend to grumble against God?

Exodus 16 – 17

Day 53

How would you describe God's providence? In what ways did God provide for Israel? Have you ever considered the providence of God in your life?

Exodus 18

Day 54

What have you learned from Jethro's advise to Moses? What have you learned about Christian service? Are you helping your church leaders bear their burden? Are you willing and making yourself useful to the Lord's service?

Exodus 19

Day 55

The word “consecrate” is repeated several times. What is its meaning? Why do you think it is important to be consecrated before a person meets God? Have you experienced God in such a manner that makes you tremble? What kind of God do you worship and serve?

Exodus 20

Day 56

This is the famous chapter where God gave the Ten Commandments. What are the two commands stated in positive terms? What are the eight negative commands? What are the four commands that relate to God? What are the six commands that relate to people? What have you learned about God’s perfect laws?

Exodus 21

Day 57

In vv.1-11, God provided rules on how the Israelites should treat their fellow countrymen who worked as servants or slaves. Do you consider these laws fair? Do you agree with capital punishment? What have you learned about God through the revelation of His laws? Do you treat your employee or household helper justly?

Exodus 22

Day 58

Exodus 21 to 23:19 provides detailed descriptions and provisions of the Ten Commandments. Do you think the laws are reasonable? Would you be able to follow the laws perfectly? Upon reflecting on God's law, what spiritual lessons can you learn about God?

Exodus 23

Day 59

In vv.20–33, God promised blessing to the Israelites for obedience (see also Deuteronomy 28), with the presumption that blessing would be withheld upon disobedience. This promised blessing was for the Jews, not for believers today. What is the reason, then, for a believer’s obedience to Christ?

Exodus 24

Day 60

God made a covenant with the nation of Israel—obedience to God’s law will bring blessing and disobedience will bring curse (vv.1-8; cf. Deuteronomy 28). Later, God inscribed the covenant—His laws—in the stone tablet (v.12). From these events, what have you learned about God? What behavior and thinking should change in your life in light of God’s glory?

Exodus 25

Day 61

The tabernacle was important in the national and spiritual life of Israel. It was there God dwelt among His people and met with their leaders. Ancient mythologies also had gods living among the people. What is the difference between the Scripture records and ancient mythologies? How are you relating to and communing with God?

Exodus 26

Day 62

The measurement, materials, and design of the tabernacle and the furniture were given in details, so that the people might build according to God's specification. What have you learned about God regarding workmanship and excellence? What have you learned about worship? What kind of service should you be rendering to God?

Exodus 27

Day 63

Another name for the tabernacle is the “tent of meeting” (v.21). It reminded the people that God inhabited with them and met with them. Have you been constantly meeting with God? Do you enjoy the relationship you have with Him?

Exodus 28

Day 64

The remarkable details of the priestly clothing emphasized dignity, honor, purity, as well as the priestly role of representing people before God and representing God before the people (v.36). Do we serve and worship God in holiness and reverence? What is your usual attitude when you come to worship?

Exodus 29

Day 65

Verses 1-36 detail the installation and consecration of the priest. What have you observed about the priestly consecration? In the New Testament, all Christians are the “royal priesthood” (1 Peter 2:9)—made ministers through Christ. How should believers consecrate their lives before the Lord? Is your life consecrated for God’s use?

Exodus 30

Day 66

What have you observed regarding the construction of the furniture in the tabernacle and the preparation of worship? Do you put the same amount of time and effort into serving and worshiping God? What do you plan to do in order to worship Him in the right manner?

Exodus 31 – 32

Day 67

Contrast the last section of chapter 31—where the Lord instructed the people about Sabbath worship, and the beginning of chapter 32—where the people worshiped the golden calf. What have you learned about worshiping God? What priorities and attitude should you change in order to worship God properly?

Exodus 33

Day 68

A most beautiful description tells us about the relationship between God and Moses: Exodus 33:11 says “the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.” How would you describe your relationship with God? How is your daily walk with God?

Exodus 34

Day 69

God commanded His people that upon entering the Promised Land, they were to destroy the foreign idols of the land. One of the reasons was because “The Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God” (v.14). Why is God jealous? Does God have the right to be jealous? Will your life and behavior cause God to be jealous?

Exodus 35

Day 70

Building the tabernacle required some of the finest materials, and God’s people were expected to give freely. An acceptable offering is rooted in love. Love cannot be coerced; it is always accompanied by willingness, generosity, and sacrifice. Is your offering motivated by love for God? Do you give willingly, generously, and sacrificially?

Exodus 36 – 37

Day 71

The tabernacle and the furniture inside were meticulously handcrafted to perfection based on God's prescribed standard. Likewise, God expects excellence in every ministry that He calls us to do. Excellence is achieved when a person focuses on the goal and performs each step to perfection. Have you given your best effort in your ministry?

Exodus 38

Day 72

The structure and design of the tabernacle were based on God's prescription. Yet the number of individuals involved and the materials used for the tabernacle showed the people's effort. Thus, we must always approach God by God's prescribed ways. The particular expression of worship, however, is based on a person's knowledge and love for Him. How do you worship?

Exodus 39

Day 73

The climax of this chapter is the completion of construction—of the tabernacle, the furniture, the clothing. Verse 43 gave a commendation: “They had done it; as the Lord had commanded, so had they done it.” What kind of commendation do you want to hear when you meet the Lord? How can you make your life commendable?

Exodus 40

Day 74

The grandeur of the tabernacle cannot compare to the glory of God’s presence. God’s glory continued to guide and protect the people. Have you experienced God’s protection and guidance? Have you seen His majestic glory displayed in your life and in your world? How do you respond to God’s goodness?

Leviticus 1

Day 75

Leviticus 1-7 are God's instructions for Israel regarding their offerings to God. The first is the burnt offering, a voluntary offering which expressed one's devotion to God.

What kind of animal is acceptable (vv.3, 10)? Why is this important (see Malachi 1:6-8)? Does your offering show God you honor Him?

Leviticus 2 – 3

Day 76

The grain offering was a bloodless offering, alongside the burnt and fellowship offering.

The fellowship/peace offering symbolized peace between God and fellow men. After the blood was sprinkled, God's portion burned, the priest's share given, the rest was eaten by the worshipers as part of a fellowship meal with God. Do you enjoy fellowship with God and others?

Leviticus 4

Day 77

What was the purpose of the sin offering (vv.20, 26, 31, 35)? What or whom does this offering foreshadow (Hebrews 10:1, 10-14)? What did His sacrifice accomplish for us that the Old-Testament sin offering did not? Thank Jesus for His perfect sacrifice!

Leviticus 5:1 – 6:7

Day 78

When a person sins and restitution is possible, he offers the guilt offering and makes restitution. What sinful acts require a guilt offering (5:14-6:7)? How much restitution should one make? Have you done anything that requires restitution?

Leviticus 6:8 – 7:10

Day 79

Only the burnt offering was completely burned. In the grain offering, a memorial portion was burned. In the sin and guilt offering, only the fat was burned. The remainder was given to the priests, as they received no inheritance in the land (cf. Numbers 18:20). What does this show about God's care for those who serve Him?

Leviticus 7:11 – 38

Day 80

When does one offer a fellowship/peace offering (vv.12, 16)? Are you thankful for anything? How will you express your thanksgiving to God?

Leviticus 8 – 9

Day 81

What three offerings were offered for Aaron and his sons' ordination (8:14-30)? In chapter 9, what offerings did Aaron and the people have to give?

This order has a theological significance: one should first confess his sins before he can be consecrated to God and re-establish fellowship with God. Remember this when you come to worship on Sunday.

Leviticus 10

Day 82

Leviticus 9 ended with fire from the Lord consuming the burnt offering and the fat portions on the altar, signifying God's acceptance. What did fire from the Lord do in this chapter? What does this tell us about worship and service that God accepts? Is your worship acceptable to God?

Leviticus 11

Day 83

What is the central message of Leviticus (vv.44-45)? In chapters 11-15, God taught Israel what was holy (acceptable) and unholy (unacceptable) to God. This explains the food laws in this chapter.

According to Jesus, what make a person unclean (Mark 7:18-23)? Examine your heart. Ask God to cleanse you from any impurity.

Leviticus 12

Day 84

After the days of purification are completed, what offerings should a mother bring? What provisions were made if she could not afford the required animals? What does this tell us about God and the offerings we give to Him?

Leviticus 13:1 – 46

Day 85

Anyone with a skin disorder had to see the priest, who would pronounce him clean or unclean based on God's guidelines.

What should a man who was unclean do? Notice some of these were signs of mourning, for the unclean man had to live outside the camp, cut off from the covenant blessings.

Leviticus 13:47 – 59

Day 86

Because God lived among His people, the entire camp must be free from decay, corruption, or any impurity. Chapter 14 also shows laws regarding contaminated clothes and houses.

Are you always conscious that you live in the presence of a holy God? Is anything you have or do offensive to our holy God? How will you deal with it?

Leviticus 14:1 – 32

Day 87

When Jesus healed people with leprosy, He instructed them to show themselves to the priest (Luke 5:12-14, 17:12-14). Leviticus 14 shows the basis for Jesus' instruction. Note that the cleansing ritual involved two acts: the first restores fellowship with people, the second with God. Is fellowship with people and with God important to you?

Leviticus 14:33 – 57

Day 88

God did not explain the reason behind many regulations. The Israelites had to obey them simply because God commanded them. It was a lesson of submitting to God's sovereignty. Are there commands you don't understand? Simply submit to God's authority. Trust and obey.

Leviticus 15

Day 89

Why did God give such detailed instructions about cleanness and uncleanness (v.31)?

Sin is wrong done to God. Ritual uncleanness (like bodily discharges) was not itself sinful, but it disqualified God's people from public worship. Is there anything that is not sinful but is unwise for you as a Christian?

Leviticus 16

Day 90

What offerings does the high priest present to God on the Day of Atonement? How should an Israelite observe this day (vv.29-31)? Why?

In what way is Jesus' sacrifice unlike the high priests' sacrifices (Hebrews 7:26-27)? Let us thank Jesus for what His sacrifice accomplished for us.

Leviticus 17

Day 91

Why did God forbid the eating of blood (v.11)?

Hebrews 9:22 says, "Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness." Let us thank Jesus for His precious blood, without which we would still be alienated from God.

Leviticus 18

Day 92

What did God remind the Israelites before they entered Canaan (vv.2-5)? How would those with immoral relations be punished (v.29)? As God's holy people, they should obey His commands and not defile themselves.

Today, Christians should also be set apart and not live like the people of the world. Commit to live a morally pure life to honor God.

Leviticus 19

Day 93

What phrase is repeated many times in this chapter? This is the basis for holy living. Many of the commands in this chapter can be summed up in "love your neighbor as yourself" (v.18). As you read this chapter, think of specific ways you can love your neighbor today.

Leviticus 20

Day 94

What sins required the death penalty? In God's eyes, these sins were serious and deserved the severest punishment.

Do we hate sin as much as God does? Pray that we will not take sin in our lives lightly and that we reflect God's holiness in our daily life.

Leviticus 21

Day 95

Since God had set apart the priests to serve Him, they were to be holy. This chapter instructs priests how holiness should be practiced. 1 Peter 2:5 describes believers as a holy priesthood that offers spiritual sacrifices to God through Jesus Christ. Are you living out the holiness required of you? What sacrifices do you bring to Him?

Leviticus 22

Day 96

God is holy and the gifts offered to Him are holy. One who approaches God's gift in an unholy manner is guilty and should be punished. Have we in any way abused or misused the offerings that people give to God?

Leviticus 23

Day 97

The Israelites were to observe the following every year: Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread (vv.5-8), Firstfruits and Feast of Weeks/Pentecost (vv.9-21), Feast of Trumpets (vv. 24-25), Day of Atonement (vv.26-32), and Feast of Booths/Tabernacles (vv.34-43). Do you know the significance of each festival? Take time to remember God's goodness and faithfulness, and worship Him with a thankful heart.

Leviticus 24

Day 98

The light from the lampstand was to burn continually through the night. The bread, replaced every Sabbath, was to be in the sanctuary continually. How do these two items in the tabernacle point to Christ? Read John 6:35, 41 and 8:12. Are you constantly nourished by the Bread of Life? Are you living in darkness or in light?

Leviticus 25:1 – 22

Day 99

What would the Israelites eat when they observed a Sabbath year and didn't plant on their land? They had to learn a lesson of faith, of trusting and obeying God. Do you trust God to provide for your needs?

Leviticus 25:23 – 55

Day 100

To whom did the land belong? What was the role or identity of the Israelites?

In the same way, to whom does everything you have belong? Are you being a faithful steward of what God has entrusted you?

Leviticus 26

Day 101

God had made a covenant with Israel. This chapter enumerates the covenant regulations: blessings for the people's obedience and curses for their disobedience. What were the punishments meant to do (vv. 18, 21, 23, 27, 40-41)?

If the people disobeyed God, would God break His covenant with them (vv.44-45)? What does this teach us about God?

Leviticus 27

Day 102

When an Israelite vowed something to God and wanted to redeem it, he had to give its value plus a fifth. This was to teach them not to make vows rashly. Read Ecclesiastes 5:4-5. Have you made a promise to God that you haven't fulfilled yet?

Numbers 1

Day 103

Numbers 1-10 records Israel's final preparations for conquering Canaan. One such preparation is to count the fighting men as God commanded.

Look at the great number of fighting men, as well as Levites, women, and children! God has kept His promise of giving numerous descendants to Abraham. Are we also faithful to keep our promises?

Numbers 2

Day 104

What was located at the center of the Israelite camp? This symbolized that the Lord should be the center in the life and worship of Israel. God's people should always be aware of His presence in their midst. Is God the center of your life?

Numbers 3

Day 105

God chose Aaron's family to serve as priests and the Levites to assist them in the service of the tabernacle. Anyone unauthorized who came near should be put to death (vv.10, 38; 1:51). Nadab and Abihu were authorized persons who employed unauthorized means. Their death also served as a warning. Do you take God's commands and warnings seriously?

Numbers 4

Day 106

Each Kohathite, Gershonite, and Merarite had an assigned task whenever the tabernacle was on the move. Each person played an important role. As a believer, you are a member of the body of Christ and have a role to play. How does Christ want you to serve His body? Pray about this today.

Numbers 5

Day 107

God lived among His people and the entire camp had to be pure. This chapter deals with cleansing the camp from ceremonial uncleanness (vv.1-4), personal sins against another (vv.5-10), and the secret sin of adultery (vv.11-28). Whether open and obvious, or personal and hidden, sin needs to be confessed. Search your heart and confess your sin today.

Numbers 6

Day 108

A Nazirite was one who devoted himself to God for a period of time and vowed to follow certain rules. As Christians, our whole life should be devoted to God. Does every area of your life give glory to God (1 Corinthians 10:31)? Is there anything you should abstain from to live a consecrated life?

Numbers 7

Day 109

The Israelites constructed the tabernacle as God had instructed. When the altar was dedicated, identical gifts were given by each tribal leader for twelve successive days. What a grand celebration! Most importantly, it was pleasing and acceptable to God, as seen in v.89. As a church, what can we offer to bring pleasure to God?

Numbers 8

Day 110

Whether in setting up the lamps, or in purifying the Levites for the work of the tabernacle, the Israelites did "just as the Lord commanded Moses" (vv.3, 20, 22). Service that pleases God is that which is done according to His commands. How are you serving the Lord? Is it according to His commands?

Numbers 9 – 10

Day 111

The Israelites commemorated the Passover a year after they left Egypt. By now, they had become an organized camp of God's people, led daily by God's presence in the pillar of cloud and fire. By His command, they would move or they would stop.

Do we live our lives conscious of God's presence? Do we seek His guidance and direction?

Numbers 11

Day 112

Why did the people complain against the Lord? Why did Moses complain? What did God do about their complaints?

Do you have any complaints against the Lord? Instead of complaining and kindling God's anger, what should you do instead?

Numbers 12:1 – 13:24

Day 113

Who spoke against Moses? Who defended Moses? What lessons can we learn from Moses' example?

Numbers 13:25 – 14:45

Day 114

If the Israelites had faith in God as Caleb did, they would have entered the Promised Land. Because they refused to obey, they had to wander in the desert for forty years.

In chapter 12, Moses interceded for Miriam. In chapter 14, he prayed for the people. Read Moses' prayer again (14:13-19). What do you observe about it?

Numbers 15

Day 115

When a person sinned unintentionally, he should bring an offering to the Lord to be forgiven. What happened if someone sinned intentionally, like the Sabbath-breaker (vv.30-31)? Why?

This chapter ends with a reminder of who God is in the lives of His people. What does God expect from His people (vv.39-41)?

Numbers 16

Day 116

The Israelites rebelled against the Lord again. First, they refused to take possession of Canaan (13:31-14:4). Then, they attacked the Canaanites without God's blessing (14:40-45). This time, they rebelled against Moses and Aaron and later blamed them for the death of those who rebelled. Search your heart. Is there any sin with which you repeatedly struggle?

Numbers 17 – 18

Day 117

Once and for all, God showed that He chose Aaron's family to serve as priests and the Levites to assist them. It was a privilege with great responsibility (18:1). Any other Israelite who went near would be put to death (18:7, 22).

How thankful we should be for the privilege to come to the throne of grace through Jesus Christ!

Numbers 19

Day 118

Numbers 15:1-20:1 covers approximately thirty-eight years. As the older generation died, the living had to come in contact with dead bodies. The water of cleansing provided the means to maintain the purity of the entire camp. Read Hebrews 9:13-14 and pray for cleansing from any impurity.

Numbers 20 – 21

Day 119

Back at Kadesh on the first month of the fortieth year of wandering, the new generation complained, like their parents did, about the lack of water and food.

Why did God not allow Moses to enter Canaan (20: 8-12)? Pray for inner strength to not act rashly and to uphold God's holiness in everything you do.

Numbers 22

Day 120

Balak feared as he saw how Israel had defeated two Amorite kings. He asked Balaam to curse Israel, but God turned the curse into blessing. Read Psalm 118:6 and Romans 8:31. How do this narrative and these two verses comfort us?

Numbers 23 – 24

Day 121

Because of Israel's rebellion, their possession of Canaan was delayed by 40 years. Now, a new generation was ready to enter the Promised Land. Balaam's oracles showed that God's promises of seed, land, and blessing to Abraham were about to come to pass. What do we learn about God in these two chapters?

Numbers 25

Day 122

Balaam couldn't curse the people whom God had blessed. Instead, he knew that sin would bring God's hand against His own people. To please Balak and get his reward, he counselled the Moabites to seduce the Israelites into idol worship and sexual immorality (31:16).

Why was God pleased with Phinehas? Are you also zealous for God's honor?

Numbers 26

Day 123

The first generation had died. It was now time for another census. Though many had died in chapters 14, 16, and 25, the number of fighting men (v.50) remained nearly the same as the first census (1:46). In spite of Israel's rebellion, God remained faithful to His covenant with Abraham. How has God been faithful in your life?

Numbers 27 – 28

Day 124

As the second generation prepared to enter Canaan, they were reminded to present their offerings at the appointed times. Sacrifices were central to the worship of Israel. These were daily reminders of who the people were, who their God was, and how they needed to respond to Him in obedience and gratitude. How can we be reminded of these today?

Numbers 29

Day 125

What special days did the Israelites observe in the seventh month? This chapter emphasizes the offerings to be brought to the Lord on these days. Considering the huge number of animals to be slaughtered, it could only be possible if God had blessed them abundantly. Is offering to God a joy or a burden to you?

Numbers 30 – 31

Day 126

Not one of the men of war was missing after the Israelites fought the Midianites. How did they express their thanksgiving to God? How has God protected and delivered you? Did you remember to thank Him?

Numbers 32

Day 127

Why was Moses initially enraged with the petition of the Reubenites and Gadites? What eventually made him grant their request?

Do you consider how your decisions and actions affect other people? Pray for wisdom and discernment in your decision making.

Numbers 33 – 34

Day 128

Even before Israel conquered Canaan, God had already told them the borders of the land they would occupy. We may be unfamiliar with these places, but for the Israelites, these were real places and they would enjoy them very, very soon. This called for a celebration over God's good gift. Thank God, the Giver of everything we have!

Numbers 35

Day 129

The Levites would not receive any land as inheritance but would be given towns to live in. They were dispersed in Israel and could teach the Israelites God's Law.

What were cities of refuge for? What do these instructions tell us about God's view of human life? Why was it important not to defile the land with bloodshed?

Numbers 36

Day 130

The book of Numbers begins with the Israelites' obedience in preparing to conquer Canaan. However, the conquest did not materialize because of their rebellion. With a new generation ready to enter the Promised Land, the book ends with the obedience of Zelophehad's daughters. Is your life characterized by obedience to God?

Deuteronomy 1

Day 131

The Israelites were about to enter Canaan when Moses reviewed their history with them. Moses pointed out God's charge to His people (v.8), their previous refusal to enter the land (v.26), their grumbling against God (v.27), their fear (v.28), and their failure to trust God in spite of His evident power (vv.29-32). How can you avoid these pitfalls?

Deuteronomy 2 – 3

Day 132

How did the Israelites deal with Edom (2:1-8)? With Moab (2:9-18)? With Ammon (2:19-23)? With Sihon (2:24-37)? With Og (3:1-11)? As they obeyed God's commands, how did God manifest His faithfulness and sovereignty? Indeed, those who faithfully obey God will realize that nothing is too difficult for God.

Deuteronomy 4

Day 133

Why did the Israelites need to keep God's commandments? Does our life reflect that we are God's people? Remember God's unconditional grace and His faithfulness to His promise. Remember also God's discipline and judgment that will follow His people's rebellion and idolatry.

Deuteronomy 5 – 6

Day 134

Before Moses restated the 10 Commandments, he reminded the people that the demands of the law are based on who God is and on what God had done (5:6). How do you view God's law? Is God's law a delight to you or an added burden?

Deuteronomy 7 – 8

Day 135

What were God's promises and warnings before He drove out Israel's enemies? God knew the people's fears (7:17-21) and reminded them of His previous deliverance and provision (8:2-4). Are you willing to trust and obey God? Does His presence surpass all your fears?

Deuteronomy 9:1 – 10:11

Day 136

What presumptions must the Israelites avoid (9:4-6)? Israel should remember how they had failed in the past. What can we learn from the way God dealt with Moses, the Israelites, and other nations?

Deuteronomy 10:12 – 11:32

Day 137

What were the blessing and curse accompanying God's commandments? The blessing and curse were explicitly meant for the Israelites. However, we worship the same God who is holy and just. In what ways are we called to keep God's commandment?

Deuteronomy 12

Day 138

The Israelites were commanded to worship the LORD alone and obliterate all foreign gods. Why does God demand full devotion? Do we totally renounce other gods and worship God according to His way and desire?

Deuteronomy 13

Day 139

There are many sources of temptation (vv.1-5) and pressure (vv.6-18) to go after other gods. Have you ever been deceived or enticed to abandon God? How can we stand firm in the Lord (vv.3-5)? Why did God demand execution on those who mislead others in faith (vv.11, 17-18)?

Deuteronomy 14 – 15

Day 140

What were the instructions and prohibitions regarding funeral (14:1), diet (14:3-21), tithes (14:22-29), and the Sabbatical year (ch. 15)? How did God manifest His graciousness in His commandments? How does God's grace motivate you to be gracious and generous to others?

Deuteronomy 16

Day 141

The Feast of Passover, Feast of Weeks, and Feast of Booths were meant to be reminders of God's previous provision, man's social inclusiveness, and his response to God's blessings. When we celebrate important life events, do we incorporate these important elements?

Deuteronomy 17 – 18

Day 142

There were several roles of leadership in Israel—judges, kings, priests, and prophets. What were the common demands that God had for these leadership roles? As leaders, do we administer justice according to God's terms? As subordinates, are we willing to follow and support our leaders?

Deuteronomy 19

Day 143

The Law of Remuneration (v.21) was meant to uphold societal justice, not to promote personal vengeance.

What are the theological or legal principles behind the cities of refuge (vv.4-13), property boundaries (v.14), and witnesses against a crime (vv.15-20)? As believers, how do we exercise justice yet extend mercy to wrongdoers?

Deuteronomy 20:1 – 21:14

Day 144

God gave principles concerning warfare to govern the Israelites. Who were exempted from military service (20:5-8)? What should be the first attempt in approaching an enemy nation (20:10)? How should female captives be treated (21:10-14)? How do these principles show God's love and mercy?

Deuteronomy 21:15 – 22:30

Day 145

These laws had to do with the value of life, both animal and human. They also addressed the subjects of property (22:1-4), safety (22:8), and family relations (22:13-30). Do you consider and care for others' needs? Loving God also means loving your neighbour as yourself.

Deuteronomy 23:1 – 24:9

Day 146

Why were certain groups of people refused entry into God's assembly or required to stay outside of camp (23:14)? What are some practical measures you can take to keep yourself away from every evil thing?

Deuteronomy 24:10 – 25:19

Day 147

Each person is not only responsible for his own deed, but also bears a moral obligation to the community.

God's redeeming grace towards those who fear Him, as well as His judgment on those who do not, motivate us to live justly. How does God's past provision inspire you to perform your Christian duties?

Deuteronomy 26

Day 148

What was the significance of offering firstfruits and tithes? What should be our attitude in terms of offering? Do you give an offering out of gratitude for God's grace and blessing?

Deuteronomy 27

Day 149

Pronouncing the curses reminded Israel that the Lord saw and knew their sins committed in secret. Likewise, the demand that all the people should say, "Amen!" obliged wrongdoers to pronounce their own curse. Are there any sins we have done in secret? Repent!

Deuteronomy 28

Day 150

The list of curses continues in this chapter. Those who engaged in persistent rebellion against God were warned of their inevitable consequence. Do you heed God's warning and take His word seriously? Should you wait until punishment comes before learning to obey?

Deuteronomy 29 – 30

Day 151

As much as the Lord would bring ruin upon those who disobey, He would also grant compassion and restoration to those who return to Him in obedience. Have you experienced God's forgiveness and restoration? May our Lord enable us to love Him wholeheartedly.

Deuteronomy 31:1 – 32:47

Day 152

God knew that the Israelites would forsake Him and go after foreign gods, yet He still appointed Joshua to lead His people into the Promised Land. God even provided a song that would enable them to remember His deliverance and their past sin. How often do we disregard God, even after receiving His bountiful blessings?

Deuteronomy 32:48 – 33:29

Day 153

Moses trusted in God's faithfulness even though he would not be entering the Promised Land. He reminded the people of God's protection and deliverance. Are you willing to trust God and encourage others to put their hope in Him, even if you are not part of such blessings?

Deuteronomy 34

Day 154

Consider the life of Moses. He was a good and faithful servant of the Lord. In spite of his imperfections, he had experienced God's presence, witnessed God's wonders, and served God's people. How would you want your life to be summed up in the end?

Joshua 1

Day 155

What was God's repeated command to Joshua in vv. 6, 7, and 9? Why do you think Joshua needed this? Have you ever felt overwhelmed by a task you are called to do? May the presence and promise of the Lord bring you assurance.

Joshua 2

Day 156

Even though Rahab's background was less than honorable, she was saved based on her faith. What does this teach us about God's impartiality?

Having heard of the power of the God of Israel, Rahab knew that Jericho was doomed. What did Rahab do to save herself and her family? Are you as anxious for your family's salvation?

Joshua 3 – 4

Day 157

Crossing the Jordan was a miracle reminiscent of the crossing of the Red Sea. Notice God's stated purpose in 3:7.

The memorial stones were meant to communicate a message to Israel's descendants and all the peoples of the earth. Can your life also testify to others about God's greatness?

Joshua 5 – 6

Day 158

The Israelites needed to be circumcised in order to properly observe the Passover (see Exodus 12:43ff). This observance, together with the ceasing of the manna, officially marked the end of Israel's wilderness wandering.

How did Israel defeat Jericho, a well-fortified city? What lesson can we learn from this battle?

How did Ai compare to Jericho in terms of size and population? Why was Israel defeated?

What were the Israelites forbidden to keep for themselves (6:18-19)? What do you think prompted Achan to take these things? What sins do we harbor today? Let us not imagine that we can hide them from God.

In Canaan were many city-states, each ruled by a local king. For Israel, this meant winning Jericho was not enough. One battle after another had to be fought. The people had to persist.

In our lives, is it possible to become smug in our past victories that we forget to continue following the Lord in our present and future struggles?

Joshua 8:30 – 9:27

Day 161

Moses had commanded regarding Mt. Gerizim and Mt. Ebal (Deuteronomy 11:29-32), two mountains that stood as perpetual reminders of God's blessing and curse. What was the way to God's blessing?

The Gibeonites schemed to deceive the Israelites. See God's command in Exodus 23:31-33. Why did Israel fall into their trap (9:14)? What lessons have you learned?

Joshua 10 – 11

Day 162

Chapter 10 records the conquest of central and southern Palestine. Chapter 11 records the conquest of northern Palestine.

Notice how five kings united against Israel (10:5). Did this actually make it easier or harder for Joshua to defeat them? Our enemies may be powerful, but we can put our confidence in a God who fights for us.

Joshua 12 – 13

Day 163

God had promised to give Canaan to Israel, yet the people still had to fight hard. What do we learn about divine sovereignty and human responsibility? Have you obediently allowed God to accomplish His plans through you?

When Joshua became old, he divided the land among the tribes, who would have to fight the remaining Canaanites within their territory (13:1-6).

Joshua 14

Day 164

Caleb was among the twelve spies Moses sent to Canaan (Numbers 13). He favored entering Canaan at that time, while his companions discouraged the people. Because the people lacked faith, God let them wander another forty years. Now at 85, Caleb was as determined as ever to win this land. What can you learn from Caleb?

Joshua 15 – 16

Day 165

Jacob had twelve sons. Descendants of Levi were consecrated for the Lord and not numbered among the others. Joseph's portion was split among his sons, Manasseh and Ephraim, forming two tribes out of one. Thus, there were still twelve tribes (12-1+1=12).

Notice how each tribe's territory was clearly designated. Why was this important? (see Deuteronomy 19:14, 27:17)

Joshua 17 – 18

Day 166

Gad, Reuben, and half of Manasseh had possessed land beyond the Jordan. Judah, Ephraim, and another half of Manasseh also made arrangements with Joshua according to their needs. The remaining seven tribes received their land by lots.

Would you gladly accept what is "allotted" to you, or do you feel compelled to fight for your own portion?

Joshua 19

Day 167

After all the tribes received their land, Joshua finally got his inheritance (v.49). What does this show us about Joshua's character? How can we have a humble, yielding, selfless attitude like Joshua?

Joshua 20 – 21

Day 168

Levites were not given a territory of their own, but were dispersed among the twelve tribes. They were chosen to serve the Lord, and the Lord Himself was their inheritance (Deuteronomy 10:8-9).

Forty-eight cities were given for Levites to settle. Six of these were "refuge cities." What was their purpose (20:3)? What attribute of God can we observe?

Joshua 22

Day 169

The two-and-a-half tribes across the Jordan (Gad, Reuben, and half of Manasseh) had helped the other nine-and-a-half tribes conquer Canaan. Now that they were returning to their place, they feared being forsaken and forgotten because of geographic distance.

Do you fear being forgotten and forsaken? Find security in God's promise (Hebrews 13:5).

Joshua 23 – 24

Day 170

In Joshua's final words to the people, he reviewed the miracles God had done among them. He reiterated the need to obliterate remaining pockets of Canaanites. He challenged the people to faithfully serve the Lord.

Joshua's statement in 24:15b became a motto of many Christians. Will you, and your family, commit to serve the Lord?

Judges 1

Day 171

As we begin reading the book of Judges today, bear in mind the background: there was no king; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

After Joshua died, the Israelites started out well, seeking God's leading. Can you identify what they did right? When did they start disobeying God? Is your walk with God marked with obedience?

Judges 2 – 3

Day 172

*Meditate on 2:10-14. Why was the time of the judges very chaotic? How important is it for our family to **know** the Lord and what He has done?*

Judges 4 – 5

Day 173

God's design is that men should lead. In the absence of male leadership, what should be the attitude of women with regards to authority?

Judges 6

Day 174

Answer Gideon's question in verse 13.

Gideon declared that he belonged to the weakest clan and was the least in his house. How was he able to accomplish victory over the Midianites (vv.14, 16, 34)? Lay your weakness before the Lord and let Him work through it for His glory.

Judges 7

Day 175

Why did God decrease the number of fighting men significantly (v. 2)? Often times, we plan and rely on our own abilities so much, that we don't have room for God to demonstrate His miracles and glory.

Judges 8

Day 176

The Ephraimites were ignoble. They came late for the fight and wanted their share of the plunder (8:1, 12:1). Likewise, the men of Succoth and Peniel contributed nothing to the battle. Do you seek worldly glory or do you strive to be faithful in doing God's work?

Judges 9

Day 177

Is it true that “blood is thicker than water”? Observe this in vv.2-3. How has nepotism (partiality based on family ties) corrupted our society? How should Christians exercise wisdom in this area?

Judges 10

Day 178

People rejected God when they thought they did not need Him. Once they felt the need, however, they called to God for help. What is wrong with this mentality? Are we guilty of the same attitude?

Judges 11

Day 179

Jephthah could have been a great warrior. What was the blemish in his life story? What did he do that was right in his own eyes (vv.30-31)? Before you make any decision, do you stop and consider God's teaching?

Judges 12

Day 180

Once again, the Ephraimites wanted to share in the plunder, threatening even to destroy Jephthah. How did Jephthah deal with the situation? Because an egoistic tribe met an impatient leader, civil war broke out. What can we do to avoid conflicts among God's people?

Judges 13 – 14

Day 181

Samson was chosen and especially empowered by God. What was his character flaw that caused his life to become a mess? Are there any compromises in your life threatening to destroy your Christian walk and witness?

Judges 15

Day 182

What are the consequences of Samson's actions? Our sinful actions often bring consequences beyond our control. Many times, we even affect the people around us. How can we prevent this?

Judges 16

Day 183

Samson toyed with sin time and again (vv.1, 4, 7, 11, 13, 17, 20), proudly thinking he could always escape unharmed. He did not realize the spiritual battle going on between God's purpose and his willfulness. Samson only fulfilled his mission when he prayed to God again (v. 28). Have you strayed from God's purpose? Humbly surrender yourself to Him.

Judges 17 – 18

Day 184

In the days of the judges, everyone did what was right in his own eyes. This is the definition of sin. List down all the sins in chapters 17-18.

Notice how the Israelites maintained an appearance of religiosity while acting without fear of God. Do we also act religious, but continue to live as we desire?

Judges 19

Day 185

Look at how far God's people—the people of Gibeah, the old man from Ephraim, and the Levite—have fallen morally. These are the consequences when people do what is right in their own eyes. Commit to submit to God's standard and not insist on your own way.

Judges 20 – 21

Day 186

Observe how the entire nation had come to be characterized by immorality, hatred, outbursts of anger and violence. The Israelites lived in sin and compromise, even though they seemed to pay lip service to God.

How much of our lives is being lived as we see fit?

Ruth 1 – 2

Day 187

Naomi had suffered greatly after her husband's decision to move to Moab. Yet she remained a sweet and considerate woman even into her old age. Ruth, on the other hand, was kind, industrious, and submissive. Although born a Moabite, she converted to the faith of her husband's family.

What can we observe about family interaction from Naomi and Ruth?

Ruth 3 – 4

Day 188

To understand the story properly, read about the Levirate marriage (Deuteronomy 25:5-10). God provided this law for the protection of childless widows and the perpetuation of family property.

How were Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz each blessed for their righteousness? What can we learn from these exceptional characters who lived during the time of the judges when most people were unscrupulous?

I Samuel 1:1 – 2:26

Day 189

How did Hannah act when she was childless? How did she act after she received a child? How should we respond to God's grace through our actions?

I Samuel 2:27 – 3:21

Day 190

How was it that Eli the priest had ungodly sons? What practical things can we do to bring up godly descendants?

I Samuel 4

Day 191

Why did the Israelites repeatedly fail as they went up against the Philistines? What was the result of their failure? How can we abide in God's victory?

I Samuel 5 – 6

Day 192

What did the Philistines and the Israelites do respectively with God's ark of covenant? What were the results of handling the ark in a right manner and in a wrong manner? As we approach the presence of God, how are we able to gain His pleasure?

I Samuel 7

Day 193

How could the house of Israel attain to God's blessing? Is there anything in your heart that has taken the place of God? How can we turn from evil and return to the right path?

I Samuel 8 – 9

Day 194

What reason did the Israelites use for abandoning "God's rule" in favor of "man's rule"? Is there an aspect of our life that might become someone's excuse for renouncing God? If so, how can we rectify it?

I Samuel 10 – 11

Day 195

What blessing did Saul receive? What responsibility did he have to bear? How is blessing related to responsibility? Are we thankful in the midst of blessings, and faithful in the face of responsibility?

I Samuel 12

Day 196

How did Samuel deal with the house of Israel which had gone astray? How should we deal with Christians who have chosen a wrong path?

I Samuel 13

Day 197

Find out the main reason that the Lord departed from King Saul. Let us examine ourselves to see if we have committed the same error as King Saul, and let us repent from it.

I Samuel 14

Day 198

How did Saul's way of dealing with problems differ from Jonathan's way? When we face a difficult situation, what principles should we remember to apply?

I Samuel 15

Day 199

What can we learn about the Lord's character and intention as we observe the way He dealt with Saul? How should we respond to a merciful and loving God?

I Samuel 16

Day 200

God rejected Saul and ordained David to be the next King. What is the Lord's standard in choosing people? Are our lives fit for God's use?

I Samuel 17

Day 201

Upon what did David rely in order to defeat Goliath? Are we under attack? If so, what can we learn from David about facing an enemy?

I Samuel 18

Day 202

Why was Saul jealous? What was the outcome of this jealousy? In your heart, are you jealous of someone? How can you overcome it?

I Samuel 19:1 – 20:11

Day 203

How did Jonathan treat his friend? What lessons on friendship can we learn from Jonathan?

I Samuel 20:12 – 21:15

Day 204

How was David delivered from his troubles? Think back on how God has granted you victory over a challenging situation, and give thanks to Him.

I Samuel 22 – 23

Day 205

Saul always acted in his own interest, disregarding even the Lord's directives. What was the result? Have we acted like Saul at all? If so, how could we renew our life direction?

I Samuel 24

Day 206

What was David's principle in facing the hostile King Saul? How can we cope with an enemy in a Biblical way?

I Samuel 25

Day 207

Contrast Nabal and Abigail in their interpersonal dealings. What was the consequence for each person? Let us evaluate the way we treat others, and see if we can improve or correct ourselves.

I Samuel 26

Day 208

Why did Saul pursue David incessantly? And why did David show compassion repeatedly? What lessons can we glean to apply in our lives?

I Samuel 27 – 28

Day 209

*What was Saul's habitual way of handling problems?
What is a right way to manage our difficulties?*

I Samuel 29

Day 210

*Why were the Philistines unwilling to accept David?
What is the Biblical principle for interacting with people?*

I Samuel 30

Day 211

How did God show grace when David was caught in perilous circumstances? Reflect on how God has mightily worked in your life, and respond to Him appropriately!

I Samuel 31

Day 212

What was the end of Saul who had forsaken his God? What attribute of God can we see from the culmination of Saul's life? Let us search our hearts, to see if we are constantly living under God's guidance.

II Samuel 1

Day 213

Judging from David's song of lament, how did he view his persecutor, Saul? How do we treat those who have persecuted us?

II Samuel 2

Day 214

When David received the kingdom, how did he behave? When things are working out for us, how can we apply David's principle of conduct?

II Samuel 3

Day 215

State the reason for Abner's downfall. Do we approach things as Abner did? We need to examine ourselves and repent from error.

II Samuel 4 – 5

Day 216

What are the respective consequences for obeying and disobeying God? How are our lives oriented—towards obedience or disobedience?

II Samuel 6

Day 217

Why was God angry at Uzzah, to the point of killing him? We can discover a principle for serving God here. Let us evaluate our own service.

II Samuel 7 – 8

Day 218

How did David act before the Lord when he experienced luxury and comfort? How should we respond when we are recipients of God's blessings?

II Samuel 9 – 10

Day 219

*What was David's rule of thumb in dealing with people?
Ask yourself: how do you relate to others?*

II Samuel 11

Day 220

Notice the steps that led David into sin, and take them as warning to yourself. At what crossings do you have a tendency to go astray? Meditate on this and amend your ways.

II Samuel 12

Day 221

How did God deal with David's sin? How should we respond to God's rebuke?

II Samuel 13

Day 222

What caused the doom of Amnon? We need to stay watchful, lest we end up on the path to destruction.

II Samuel 14

Day 223

As a father, what did David do with his shrewd but ill-willed son, Absalom? What is the spiritual condition of our children? How should we discipline our children?

II Samuel 15

Day 224

How did Absalom treat his father David, who loved him and repeatedly excused him? Why did Absalom act that way? How should we regard our loving parents?

II Samuel 16:1 – 17:23

Day 225

What did David do with Shimei, who was adding insult to his injury? Learning from David's attitude, how should we face people who attack us?

II Samuel 17:24 – 18:33

Day 226

What was the end of Absalom, the outrageously rebellious son? How should we repent and turn to the Lord before His judgment catches up?

II Samuel 19

Day 227

At David's triumphant return, people had different reactions. Why is this so? What is our appropriate response to God's chosen leaders?

II Samuel 20

Day 228

Why did Joab murder Amasa? How can we avoid falling into Joab's sin?

II Samuel 21

Day 229

What can we learn from David as he handled the situation of the famine? How can we face life's adversities in the right way?

II Samuel 22

Day 230

In his victory, David praised God with his songs. He knew that God had been his fortress and his salvation. Are you in the habit of counting God's blessings and giving thanks?

II Samuel 23

Day 231

*Why did David have the support of many mighty men?
How can a leader be loved by his people and blessed by
God?*

II Samuel 24

Day 232

*David's numbering of the people provoked God's
displeasure. What was the result of this incident? What
should we do when we have displeased the Lord?*

I Kings 1

Day 233

*Whose plan was it that Adonijah would be king (v.5)?
Whose plan was it that Solomon would be king (1
Chronicles 22:9-10, 28:5-6, 29:1)? Whose will prevailed?
What can we learn from this? Read Proverbs 19:21.*

I Kings 2

Day 234

David's instructions to Solomon before he died involved his spiritual walk (vv.3-4) and the people he should deal with (vv.5-9). Why were these instructions important?

Solomon carried out the latter with wisdom and established his kingdom. Yet, he did not heed the first instruction and suffered the consequences. Pray that you will always walk in the ways of the Lord.

I Kings 3

Day 235

Read Solomon's prayer carefully. Why did he ask God for an understanding mind? What do you pray for? Are your requests self-centered or God-centered?

I Kings 4 – 5

Day 236

In these two chapters, we see the fulfillment of God's promises: numerous descendants to Abraham (4:20), a peaceful reign under David's son (4:21, 5:4), and wealth and wisdom to Solomon (4:26-34). All these were given by God. Have you counted your blessings? Have you acknowledged the Giver of all the things you enjoy?

I Kings 6

Day 237

This chapter describes the outer structure (vv.2-10) and the interior (vv.15-35) of the temple. Note the excellent organization and planning under the leadership of a wise king.

The Temple was special, not for its physical features, but for its significance as the house of God. What were God's condition and promise to Solomon (vv.11-13)? Commit to keep God's commands today.

I Kings 7

Day 238

After a brief description of the construction for Solomon's palace complex, the writer resumes his narration of the work done on the temple. Not only did Solomon employ the service of a skillful craftsman, he also used the finest materials to make furnishings for the temple. Do we offer our skills and resources to our great and awesome God?

I Kings 8

Day 239

David's dream was finally fulfilled! The house of the Lord was completed and the ark placed in the Most Holy Place. Solomon dedicated the temple with a very long prayer, recounting God's faithfulness to David and requesting God to hear the prayers offered toward the temple.

What lessons can you learn from Solomon's prayer?

I Kings 9

Day 240

What was God's promise to Solomon? What was the condition? What would happen if Solomon and his sons turned away from God? Remember this promise and warning, as we would read about God fulfilling them in the succeeding chapters.

Pray that you will walk before God with integrity of heart and uprightness.

I Kings 10

Day 241

What did the Queen of Sheba say upon seeing for herself the wisdom and prosperity she had heard about Solomon (vv.8-9)? Will people who witness your accomplishments praise the God who made your success possible? How can you point others to God?

I Kings 11

Day 242

For ten chapters, we see Solomon's devotion to God and God's pleasure in blessing Solomon. What did Solomon do that led to the downfall of the Davidic kingdom (vv.1-13)?

Is your heart totally devoted to God? Is there anyone or anything that you love more than God and is turning your heart away from Him?

I Kings 12

Day 243

In chapter 11, the prophet explained why God tore the kingdom from Solomon and chose Jeroboam to rule over ten tribes of Israel. God promised Jeroboam an enduring house like David's if he would obey God.

What did Jeroboam do at the beginning of His reign? Why? Do you trust God to keep His word, or do you walk defiantly?

I Kings 13

Day 244

The man of God from Judah disobeyed God. What was the consequence of his disobedience (vv.20-24)? Jeroboam has been warned. What was his response (v.33)? What was the consequence (v.34)?

Disobedience to God is a serious matter not to be taken lightly. Have you been disobedient? Confess and repent.

I Kings 14

Day 245

Because Solomon turned away from God, his son Rehoboam reigned over two tribes only. Rehoboam did not learn from his father's mistakes. What evil things did he do to provoke God to jealousy? Are there things you do today that would provoke God to jealousy?

I Kings 15

Day 246

How did King Asa show his wholehearted devotion to God (vv.12-15)? How will you show your wholehearted devotion to God?

I Kings 16 – 17

Day 247

In the spiritually dark times of Israel under ungodly kings, Elijah stood out as a man to whom the word of the Lord came and who did according to the word of the Lord.

Do you stand out as a child of God in this dark world? Commit to trust and obey God even when those around you don't.

I Kings 18

Day 248

What did Baal's prophets do to call his attention? Why did Baal not answer? How did the LORD answer Elijah's simple yet earnest prayer?

Are you convinced that the LORD is God? How do you live out this conviction?

I Kings 19

Day 249

Even a great man of God like Elijah could become afraid and discouraged. What did God do for Elijah? What do you do in times of fear and discouragement? Instead of sulking or running away, turn to the Lord. Find rest and strength in Him.

I Kings 20

Day 250

Why did God help the evil King Ahab even though he did not seek God's help (vv.13, 28)? Have you ever received help from God even before you prayed? The Lord knows what we need even before we ask. Praise and thanks be to our all-knowing God!

I Kings 21

Day 251

Ahab did more evil than other kings, provoking the Lord to anger. He committed the sins of Jeroboam, married Jezebel (a Sidonian princess), and worshipped Baal (16:30-33). This chapter shows Jezebel's influence on Ahab (v.25). Are you a godly or ungodly influence to those around you?

I Kings 22:1 – 40

Day 252

God ordained the death of Ahab in this battle. Though he entered the battle in disguise, he was still hit by an arrow between the sections of his armor. He died, fulfilling Micaiah's prophecy. Dogs licked his blood, fulfilling Elijah's prophecy (21:19).

Read Isaiah 14:27. Man cannot thwart the plans of God. Does this truth bring assurance?

I Kings 22:41 – II Kings 1:18

Day 253

How is Ahaziah described (I Kings 22:52-53)? What does II Kings 1 tell us about him? Note how Ahaziah wasn't even a bit repentant after being rebuked by Elijah.

Do you seek guidance from God or from other means? Do not forget that our God is all-knowing, all-powerful, and delights in the welfare of His servants (Psalm 35:27b).

II Kings 2 – 3

Day 254

What was Elisha's request before Elijah was taken (2:9)? Why was this important? How can we see divine power at work in Elisha?

We cannot serve God in our own strength. We need His empowerment. This was true in the ministry of the Old Testament prophets and the New Testament apostles, and is still true in our lives today.

II Kings 4

Day 255

The miracles in this chapter remind us of Elijah, thus confirming that the God of Elijah was with Elisha. How did God provide for the needs of the widow, the couple in Shunem, and the sons of the prophets?

How has God provided for your needs? Give thanks to our Jehovah Jireh, who faithfully and abundantly provides for us!

II Kings 5:1 – 6:23

Day 256

What did Naaman realize when he was healed of leprosy (5:15)? Isn't it ironic that Joram, the king ruling God's people, did not realize this (5:6-7)? Do you know your God?

II Kings 6:24 – 8:15

Day 257

Just as Ahab blamed Elijah for the drought, his son Joram blamed Elisha for the famine. Instead of blaming others in times of disaster, we should ask, "What does the Lord want me to learn?"

II Kings 8:16 – 9:37

Day 258

Ahab had died, yet his ungodly influence lived on in his daughter Athaliah, who influenced her husband Jehoram and son Ahaziah (kings of Judah). What kind of legacy will you leave behind?

God had pronounced judgment upon Ahab and Jezebel (I Kings 21:20-24). In today and tomorrow's reading, that judgment would be executed. We must never take God's warning lightly.

II Kings 10

Day 259

What did Jehu accomplish that merited God's praise (vv.28, 30)? What was his shortcoming (vv.29, 31)?

Note that partial obedience is no different from disobedience. Commit to obey God completely.

II Kings 11 – 12

Day 260

God used the priest Jehoiada to put a Davidic heir on the throne and to bring the people back to Him. What did he do when he proclaimed Joash king (11:12, 17-18)? Why were these important?

After years of apostasy, the people needed to renew their allegiance to God and be reminded of their obligations as God's people.

II Kings 13

Day 261

Jeroboam and Nadab; Baasha and Elah; Zimri; Omri, Ahab, Ahaziah and Joram; Jehu and Jehoahaz all did evil in God's eyes. Why did God delay implementing the covenant curse of exile from the land (v.23)? What does this show about God's character? Let us take care not to abuse God's grace and compassion.

II Kings 14

Day 262

What was the cause of Amaziah's downfall? What consequences did he and the kingdom suffer? How can we avoid Amaziah's downfall? Read Romans 12:3 and Luke 14:11.

II Kings 15

Day 263

Material prosperity and military achievements under Jeroboam II ended with his death (14:29). Jehu's dynasty ended with Zechariah – four generations after Jehu, as God had promised (10:30). However, the spiritual apostasy continued. Observe how Israel headed to its doom.

Are we at times stubborn like Israel, refusing to heed the warnings of God even when being punished?

II Kings 16

Day 264

How does the writer of Kings describe Ahaz? What detestable thing did he do (v.3)? Instead of seeking God's help when besieged by Syria and Israel, what did he do (vv.7-9)? Do you think God was pleased with the changes Ahaz made in the temple?

Commit to always obey God, trust in Him, and seek His will.

II Kings 17

Day 265

How did Israel sin against the Lord who brought them out of Egypt? Though God sent His prophets to them, they refused to listen and persisted in their sinful ways.

In many ways, Israel sinned by following the practices of the nations around them. Are you sinning against God by imitating the ways of the world? Take time to repent.

II Kings 18

Day 266

How did Hezekiah show his allegiance to God (v.4)? Note how the writer describes Hezekiah in vv.5-6. Would you want to be recognized as someone who did not depart from following the Lord?

II Kings 19

Day 267

How did Hezekiah respond to the threat of the Assyrian king? Read Hezekiah's prayer carefully. What do you observe about His knowledge and passion for God? Do you share Hezekiah's heart for God?

II Kings 20 – 21

Day 268

There was no one among all the kings of Judah like Hezekiah who held fast to the Lord, yet his son was the exact opposite. Manasseh reversed the religious reforms of his father and did more evil than other nations. What did the Lord decree as a result?

Pray that our children will hold fast to the Lord.

II Kings 22

Day 269

*What was Josiah's response to the Book of the Law?
What is your response to the Word of God? Is God
pleased with your response?*

II Kings 23:1 – 30

Day 270

*What did Josiah do, knowing that his fathers had
provoked the Lord to anger by their disobedience and
idolatry? Commit to turn to the Lord with all your heart,
soul, and strength, just like Josiah did.*

II Kings 23:31 – 24:17

Day 271

In 605 B.C., during the reign of Jehoiakim, Nebuchadnezzar brought the first batch of exiles to Babylon (Daniel 1:1-2). The second deportation happened in 597 B.C. Who and what were carried to exile? Why did God allow this to happen (Leviticus 26:14-16a, 31-33; II Chronicles 7:19-22)?

II Kings 24:18 – 25:30

Day 272

The fall of Jerusalem took place in 586 B.C. Observe what God allowed to happen to His people and His temple. However, in the midst of God's judgment, II Kings ends with a note of hope—that God's people is not completely destroyed, and neither is the Davidic line.

I Chronicles 1:1 – 2:2

Day 273

Chronicles retold the same events as recorded in the Books of Samuel and Kings. The author reminded postexilic Judah that God had not forgotten His covenant. He used nine chapters on their genealogy, emphasizing the kingly line of David and the priestly line of Levi.

What can we learn about God's sovereignty and judgment in history? How should we respond?

I Chronicles 2:3 – 3:24

Day 274

In chapter 2 verse 3, the author pointed out the death of Judah's firstborn, as well as the fact that Judah's daughter-in-law, Tamar, had borne him children. What was the story behind this comment? Read Genesis 38. What can we learn from this incident?

I Chronicles 4 – 5

Day 275

In the Jewish genealogy, comments are sometimes added for certain figures. What can we learn about God from these comments? We need to pay attention and respond properly.

I Chronicles 6

Day 276

What was God's main purpose in appointing the tribe of Levi? What were some forms of Levitical service? How did God require the Israelites to treat the Levites? In what way or role can we participate in serving God?

I Chronicles 7 – 8

Day 277

Compare the blessings God gave to the different tribes. Do you reflect upon God's blessings and respond to Him accordingly?

I Chronicles 9

Day 278

What positions did God appoint for the Levites who had returned from captivity? What was God's purpose in doing so? Are we faithful in the service God has given us? If not, how can we engage more in service?

I Chronicles 10 – 11

Day 279

Compare the rise and fall of Saul and David. Reflect upon your situation and your actions. Are they in the direction that God blesses?

I Chronicles 12

Day 280

Consider the process and principles behind God's institution of David as king. How do we apply these principles, that we may walk in the path of blessing?

I Chronicles 13 – 14

Day 281

Find the reasons why the Lord blessed David. Do we possess the same qualities of David? If not, how should we pursue them?

I Chronicles 15

Day 282

Note the Levitical procedures for carrying the Ark of Covenant. What are some principles of worship and service that we can discover? Are our worship and service satisfactory to the Lord?

I Chronicles 16

Day 283

How did David exalt and praise the Lord? How will you emulate David's attitude, that you may live in praise daily?

I Chronicles 17 – 18

Day 284

David desired to build a temple for God. When God denied his plan, how did he react? From David's reaction, what can we learn about the attitude of service?

I Chronicles 19 – 20

Day 285

Why was David excellent in battle? How can we live in such a way as to receive God's blessing and be victorious as Christians?

I Chronicles 21

Day 286

State the reason and consequence of David's sin. How did he react to his own sin? How can we avoid sin? How should we face God's judgment?

I Chronicles 22

Day 287

Even though God did not allow David to build the temple, what steps did David take towards the temple's construction? When we are not given the opportunity to serve in a way that we desire, what lessons can we learn from David?

I Chronicles 23 – 24

Day 288

After David left the throne to Solomon, what was his main concern? When we pass the baton to a successor, what are our primary concerns?

I Chronicles 25 – 26

Day 289

How did David assign those in charge of temple service? Have you discovered your own role in the place that God has assigned you to minister?

I Chronicles 27

Day 290

When David numbered his people in chapter 21, he was judged by God. Why did he make another attempt to number his people? What lessons can we learn here?

I Chronicles 28

Day 291

David called for the people's leaders and declared his will. What instruction did he give to the leaders and to King Solomon? Let us examine our own lives based on David's instructions here. Are we walking on the path of God's blessing?

I Chronicles 29

Day 292

As David urged the people to be united and diligent in constructing the temple, how did the people respond? Have you willingly offered yourself to participating and building up God's church?

II Chronicles 1

Day 293

How did Solomon begin his rule over Israel (vv.2-6)? How did God respond to Solomon's public worship (v.7)?

God is pleased when His people seek Him. Read Isaiah 55:6 and Jeremiah 29:13. Are you seeking the Lord?

II Chronicles 2 – 3

Day 294

What kind of temple did Solomon want to build for God (2:5, 9)? If even the highest heavens cannot contain God, why did Solomon build a temple for Him (2:4-6)?

II Chronicles 4 – 5

Day 295

When Solomon finished building the temple, the ark was brought into the Most Holy Place and the Levitical singers sang to God in praise and thanksgiving. How did God show that He was pleased (5:13-14)? Do you remember another time when something similar happened? (Read Exodus 40:30-35.)

How can our worship please and give glory to God?

II Chronicles 6

Day 296

In this historical narrative of the temple dedication, Solomon praised God for His faithfulness in keeping His promises (vv.4-11). He also emphasized the importance of prayer in maintaining relationship with God. What a timely reminder this must have been for the original readers—exiles who returned to Jerusalem! What a timely reminder for us today!

II Chronicles 7 – 8

Day 297

How did God show He accepted the burnt offerings and sacrifices? What was the people's response to it (7:1-3)? The dedication of the temple was such a joyous occasion as people witnessed the goodness of the Lord to David, to Solomon, and to His people.

Is our worship of God also characterized by joy?

II Chronicles 9

Day 298

In II Chronicles 1:12, God promised to bless Solomon with unsurpassed wisdom and wealth. Today's reading shows that God has kept His promise to Solomon.

*In the Bible, we read of God's promises to individuals and to Israel. These are for **them**. God does have promises for believers which we can claim. Have you ever doubted God's faithfulness?*

II Chronicles 10:1 – 11:4

Day 299

Because Rehoboam listened to the counsel of his young advisers, Israel was divided. What was God's word to him when he mustered Judah and Benjamin to regain the kingdom (II Chronicles 11:4; cf. 10:15)?

This crucial event in Israel's history is in accord with God's word through His prophets. The LORD our God is the sovereign Lord of history.

II Chronicles 11:5 – 12:16

Day 300

How would you describe Rehoboam's heart for God (11:17; 12:1-2, 14)? What was the consequence? What was the Lord's message for him and his response to it? What happened as a result of their humbling? What can we learn from this?

II Chronicles 13

Day 301

The Chronicler does not tell us whether Abijah sought the Lord all the days of his life. This chapter records one instance in which Abijah did seek the Lord.

Read Abijah's speech carefully. How has Judah as a nation remained faithful to God? Are you faithfully obeying God, praying and relying on Him, worshiping Him as He desires?

II Chronicles 14

Day 302

When Asa faced a huge army, he called upon the Lord, Whose name they bore and Whose honor they wanted to exalt. They declared their trust in God and He acknowledged their helplessness.

What do you do in times of weakness? Instead of wallowing in self-pity or being depressed, cry out to the Lord.

II Chronicles 15

Day 303

What did Asa do in response to the encouraging word from the prophet Azariah? The prophet's exhortation for postexilic Judah is also for us today. How will you seek the Lord this week? Have you been slack in any of the spiritual disciplines? Commit to keep them again.

II Chronicles 16

Day 304

Beginning well may be halfway to success, but one has to end well, too. In what ways did Asa not trust and obey the Lord?

Commit to follow the Lord wholeheartedly until the end of your earthly journey. Remember, "the eyes of the Lord roam to and fro to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him" (v.9a).

II Chronicles 17

Day 305

How did Jehoshaphat show his wholehearted devotion to God? How did God bless him?

Religious instruction was important for Jehoshaphat. Is it important to you, too?

II Chronicles 18:1 – 19:3

Day 306

In spite of the prophet's word, Jehoshaphat still went to battle with Ahab and almost lost his life.

What did Jehu prophesy about Jehoshaphat? Note that Jehoshaphat did not imprison the prophet as his father Asa did, but continued to be faithful to God. How do you respond to warnings and rebukes from the Lord?

II Chronicles 19:4 – 11

Day 307

What did Jehoshaphat do among his people (vv.4-5, 8)? Note his instructions for the judges and those who administered the law (vv.6-7, 9-10).

Does fear of the Lord govern your life? Proverbs 16:6b says, “By the fear of the Lord one turns away from evil.” How has the fear of the Lord kept you from sin?

II Chronicles 20

Day 308

Jehoshaphat was a man of faith and prayer. Knowing God’s character and God’s work, he trusted in God. As a result, Judah witnessed a great deliverance and responded in worship. Have you trusted God? Have you experienced His great work in your life? Did you respond in praise and worship?

II Chronicles 21

Day 309

What evil things did Jehoram do? How did God punish him? Why did God not completely destroy Jehoram and his entire family (v.7)? Aren't you thankful that even if we are faithless, God will remain faithful (II Timothy 2:13)?

II Chronicles 22

Day 310

What were the reasons for Ahaziah's downfall (vv.3-5)? Note that Ahaziah's mother, Athaliah, was the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel. Through Athaliah's marriage, Judah made an alliance with Israel, thus exposing the nation to the evil influence of the house of Ahab.

Do you select godly company? In whose ways do you live your life?

II Chronicles 23

Day 311

What was Jehoiada's contribution to God's people and God's house? For these good things, he was honored and buried with the kings of Judah (24:15). What is your contribution to God's people and God's house?

II Chronicles 24

Day 312

Joash restored the temple but his heart was not fully devoted to God. How did he turn away from God after Jehoiada's death? Is your heart fully devoted to God? Will you continue to live in obedience to God even if your spiritual mentors are no longer around?

II Chronicles 25

Day 313

What was the cause of Amaziah's victory over the men of Seir? What led to his defeat against Israel? Take note of the role of the prophets and Amaziah's response to them.

Pray that you will always heed God's word even when it is inconvenient, is unpleasant to the ears, or seems unwise in the eyes of the world.

II Chronicles 26 – 27

Day 314

What was the secret to Uzziah's success? What led to his downfall? How can you avoid this pitfall?

II Chronicles 28

Day 315

Why did God send Syria, Israel, Edom, and the Philistines against Judah (vv.1-4, 19)? Instead of repenting and turning back to the God of Israel, what did King Ahaz do in his distress (vv.22-23)? What do you do when God disciplines you?

II Chronicles 29

Day 316

What was Hezekiah's first project as king? Summarize how he restored worship at the temple. How did the people respond to Hezekiah's spiritual leadership?

Just like his father David, Hezekiah made proper worship his priority. He made sure that everything was done according to the word of the Lord (vv.15, 25). Is proper worship your priority, too?

II Chronicles 30

Day 317

Whom did Hezekiah invite to observe the Passover? Why is this significant? What did he urge the people to do (vv.6-9)? How does the Chronicler describe the celebration?

Israel, divided for many years, is now reunited in joyful corporate worship. Is unity and joy present in our corporate worship today?

II Chronicles 31

Day 318

The temple and worship of God had been neglected. Now that the temple had been cleansed and reopened, Hezekiah appointed priests and Levites to do their service in the temple. The people were encouraged to bring their tithes and offerings, and they gave abundantly.

Read 2 Corinthians 9:7. How do you give to the Lord?

II Chronicles 32

Day 319

How did Hezekiah encourage the people when the Assyrians encamped against them (vv.7-8)? Is his theology of God correct?

Do you know God? Is your knowledge of Him sufficient to sustain you through difficult times?

II Chronicles 33

Day 320

Both the king and people of Judah did much evil in the sight of the Lord (vv.1-10). How did God punish them? What did Manasseh do in his distress? How did God respond? How can you tell Manasseh's repentance was sincere?

What timeless truth can we learn from this?

II Chronicles 34:1 – 35:19

Day 321

After the book of the covenant was found and read to Josiah, what did he do in response (34:29-35:1)? Observe what the king, his officers, the priests, and Levites did to celebrate the Passover.

Have you committed to walk with the Lord? Do you encourage others to do the same? What is your role when God's people gather to worship?

II Chronicles 35:20 – 36:23

Day 322

Josiah's religious reforms died with him. Describe the leaders and the people after Josiah's reign (36:5, 9, 12-14). What did they do to arouse the Lord's anger against them (36:15-16)? What happened to Judah because of this? (36:17-21). How did God continue to show compassion to His people?

What attributes of God do we see in this passage?

Ezra 1

Day 323

At a time when all seemed hopeless, God moved the hearts of people to fulfill His plans (vv.1, 5). Do we firmly believe that God is moving people and events around us to achieve His glory? How are we moved by God?

Ezra 2

Day 324

God is gracious and merciful in bringing the people of Judah back to their land. How did they respond to God (vv.68-69)? God has been gracious to us all these years. How have we responded to Him?

Ezra 3:1 – 4:5

Day 325

Some of the Jews wept with a loud voice, while others shouted aloud for joy when they saw that the foundation of the temple was laid (3:12). What makes us sad? What makes us joyful?

Ezra 4:6 – 5:17

Day 326

The rebuilding of the temple stopped because of opposition. Why did the people resume building the temple (5:1-2, 5)? 4:7-23 tells us that they would face opposition again when rebuilding the walls.

When we encounter opposition in our walk with and service of the Lord, where can we find strength and direction?

Ezra 6

Day 327

The enemies of Judah tried very hard to stop them from rebuilding the temple of God. What irony resulted from their plan (vv.3-14)? What assurance can we derive from this?

Ezra 7 – 8

Day 328

To what did Ezra devote his life? What resulted from this devotion (7:6, 9-10, 28)? To what do you devote your life?

Ezra 9

Day 329

Why should the people of Judah not give their sons or daughters to the people of the land (vv.10-12)? How does this apply to us?

Ezra 10

Day 330

People often misunderstand “revival” as a set of outward expressions. True revival must first begin with repentance from sin. How did Ezra deal with the sin of the people? How did he feel about it?

Nehemiah 1

Day 331

What was the greatest concern of Nehemiah? How did he feel and what actions did he take about this concern (vv.2-4)?

Nehemiah 2 – 3

Day 332

How did the foreign king Artaxerxes regard Nehemiah as his servant? What does this suggest about Nehemiah's testimony (2:2-8)?

Nehemiah 4

Day 333

How did Nehemiah respond to the insults and persecution of the enemies (vv.1-5, 9)? What can we learn from his example?

Nehemiah 5 – 6

Day 334

Nehemiah not only had great concern for the things of God, his faith in God also propelled him to care for the welfare of the poor and neglected. How did he feel about social injustices (5:6) and what actions did he take (5:7-18)? How does our faith affect the way we treat the people around us?

Nehemiah 7 – 8

Day 335

Chapter 8 shows us how we should treat God's Word and how we should worship. How do our attitude and actions compare to the Jews? More specifically, do your worship life and attitude towards God's Word measure up to the Biblical example given here?

Nehemiah 9

Day 336

Why did the Jews recount their history with God (vv.5-38)? What was the main gist of this narration? What are the results of remembering God's work and dealings in the past?

Nehemiah 10

Day 337

The declaration of God's Word demands personal commitment and responsibilities. What promises did the Jews make? In the past months, what commitments have you made to God in response to His Word?

Nehemiah 11

Day 338

Observe who the people were that lived in Jerusalem, and who were the ones dispersed in other cities and villages of the land. What do you think are the pros and cons of living inside Jerusalem? Would you rather live inside or outside? Why?

Nehemiah 12

Day 339

This chapter shows that each person had a special part to play in their corporate worship—each according to his talents, gifts, and position. What part do you actively play in our corporate worship?

Nehemiah 13

Day 340

Nehemiah showed continuous vigilance and dedication in carrying out God's will. He did not hesitate to rebuke sin. Does our zeal for God's glory impel us to reprove the wrongdoings of people around us, even if it could potentially hurt some feelings?

Esther 1:1 – 2:4

Day 341

What indications do we see of King Ahasuerus' (Xerxes) vanity? Of his indecisiveness? Though Xerxes had great military accomplishments, he did not appear to be so wise in managing domestic affairs.

Esther 2:5 – 23

Day 342

Although Esther showed no desire to be queen, she was thrust into the position. Her good nature gained her the favor of all the people she met.

Sometimes we are given privileges or responsibilities that we never sought. How should we react? Could God be planning something beyond us?

Esther 3:1 – 4:14

Day 343

Haman devised an atrocious scheme against the Jews. Esther at first thought she was powerless to change anything. But Mordecai reminded her, “Who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?” (4:14b)

In what way has God strategically positioned you to achieve great things for His glory? Do not lightly dismiss your duty!

Esther 4:15 – 5:14

Day 344

Esther proceeded with caution, prayer, meekness, and wisdom. On the other hand, Haman was proud and presumptuous, supposing that he had everything under control.

What is your attitude in life? Do you humbly submit yourself to God’s plan?

Observe the timeliness of all events: Haman's plot to hang Mordecai, the king's sleeplessness, the specific passage read by the chronicler, Haman's entrance before the king. Even though the name of God did not appear throughout the Book of Esther, how can we but believe in a powerful, sovereign Hand behind all of history? Praise the Lord indeed!

By Esther's courage and wisdom, Haman—the enemy of the Jews—was finally destroyed. Mordecai, who had acted as Esther's advisor all the while, was bestowed honor.

Read Psalm 35:7-9. What assurance do we derive from Scripture? And how are we warned against plotting evil?

Esther 8:8 – 9:19

Day 347

The decree to kill the Jews could not be revoked, but a new decree granted the Jews the right to defend themselves. Thus God miraculously delivered His people from total annihilation.

History is not a series of unrelated, meaningless events. History is HIS STORY. A wise and loving God continually unveils His eternal purpose, all for His own glory.

Esther 9:20 – 10:3

Day 348

Every year as the Jews celebrated the preservation of their race, they remembered a young girl named Esther and a national hero named Mordecai. These were both peaceful subjects of Persia, as well as faithful servants of their heavenly King.

Where has the Lord placed you? What is your identity? Are you faithful to your calling today?

Ecclesiastes 1

Day 349

The preacher starts by stating that life is vain (meaningless) and that work brings no benefit. This is because he observed life to be an endless cycle with no lasting remembrance (v.11).

Do you sometimes feel the same way? What should be our attitude toward life and work?

Ecclesiastes 2

Day 350

Where do you find satisfaction in life? Some people indulge in material pleasure; others pursue wisdom or occupy themselves with work. However, no one can ever find true satisfaction apart from acknowledging God's provision.

Ecclesiastes 3

Day 351

Everything that happens in this time-bound universe is under the authority of God. How do you spend your life? Do you rejoice in God's blessing, do good works, acknowledge God's gift, and fear God for His sovereignty (vv.12-14)?

Ecclesiastes 4

Day 352

Several evils are prevalent in this world. There is oppression (vv.1-3) which makes people's lives miserable. There is rivalry (vv.4-6) which only results in vanity. And there is greed (vv.7-8) which distorts the true purpose of work. Do you find yourself encountering these?

Thank God that, in spite of those evils, we may sometimes experience another's support, comfort, and protection.

Ecclesiastes 5 – 6

Day 353

What should be our attitude in worshiping God? How should we view wealth? When we fear God, we acknowledge His superiority and provision. We will realize that both blessings and the power to enjoy them are from God.

Ecclesiastes 7

Day 354

In life, we attend funerals and festivities (vv.1-4), weigh wisdom and foolishness (vv.5-12), experience prosperity and adversity (vv.13-18), struggle as listener and speaker (vv.19-22), and discover man's depravity (vv.23-29). How can we have a balanced perspective in life?

Ecclesiastes 8

Day 355

How should we deal with those who abuse their earthly authority (vv.1-9)? How do we respond to the world's injustices (vv.10-17)? Although our human wisdom cannot comprehend these inconsistencies, we can always fear God and trust in His righteousness.

Ecclesiastes 9:1 – 10

Day 356

There is a common destiny for all—death. Does it mean that living a righteous life is useless? How do we live for Christ? How can we enjoy God's blessings while we're still living (vv.7-10)?

Ecclesiastes 9:11 – 10:20

Day 357

Man cannot predict nor control success, time, or the outcome of events. So what should our attitude be in life and work?

How should we exercise wisdom in dealing with leaders? What kind of leaders are you?

Ecclesiastes 11

Day 358

How should we face the uncertainties of life? Do you like to take risks, or do you play safe (vv.1-6)? Since death is inevitable, what did the preacher call us to do (vv.7-10)? Remember, joy is to be pursued within the boundaries set by God.

Ecclesiastes 12

Day 359

Remember God before life loses its pleasure (v.1), before the gradual loss of our strength (vv.2-5), and before death finally arrives (vv.6-7).

Are we mindful of God in our every circumstance? Do we include Him in all our plans and decisions? Does our knowledge lead us to fear and keep His commandments?

Song of Songs 1:1 – 4

Day 360

The Song of Solomon celebrates romantic love between man and woman as God ordained it. The majority of it is sung responsively by a female solo (the bride), a male solo (the king), and a chorus (daughters of Jerusalem). Verses 1-4 open with a young girl's admiration for King Solomon.

Reflect now: What qualities tend to make a man desirable?

Song of Songs 1:5 – 2:17

Day 361

Although the king was the object of desire for all the young girls, he had affection only for one in particular. Solomon issued an invitation to the girl. The two grew in mutual admiration and in anticipation of physical union.

Reflect now: What qualities tend to make a woman desirable?

Song of Songs 3 – 4

Day 362

Out of anxiety, the bride-to-be had a strange dream before her wedding. Solomon's wedding day was marked by public festivities. Following this, we find the bride and groom taking delight in each other's body.

We must remember that sexual union is God's beautiful gift to married couples. Are you careful to sanctify it only within marriage? Reflect on 4:12.

Song of Songs 5

Day 363

In this chapter we observe that in marriage, there will be times of drifting apart and growing coldness.

What are some things that could come between a couple and cause a breach in the relationship? Be vigilant to guard against them, and pray for God to preserve your intimacy.

Song of Songs 6:1 – 7:9

Day 364

Notice the exceeding joy when the couple was reunited and reconciled! In your marriage, would you let forgiveness abound or let bitterness take root? What is God's will?

Notice also how the daughters of Jerusalem reacted all along (1:4b, 5:9, 6:1). If you are single, can you genuinely rejoice for others who have found their mates?

In this passage we see the nature of love as being sacred and exclusive. It is not to be toyed with. Carelessness results in great distress. Ironically, Solomon would later fall into the detrimental trap of loving many women.

Are you careful to watch over the privacy and exclusivity of your marriage relationship? Always hold marriage in high regard!