

DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God we should commitment reading Scripture every day. There are questions to help prompt your meditation. If you do not have a Bible, please contact the church office and one will be given to you. To locate the passages, use the Table of Contents to find the page number. The number before the colon will tell you the chapter to find. The numbers after the colon are the superscript numbers in your Bible indicating the verses to read. Our Soul Food lessons are guided by "Opening Up The Psalms Commentary" written by Roger Ellsworth.

Monday, May 9th – Psalms 18, 21 45 and 72 (Indirect Messianic)

We complete our study of the Psalms with a look at the Messianic and Enthronement Psalms. We begin with a look at some of the indirect Psalms. As we read these psalms we need to remember that the authors were not thinking about the Messiah or in their minds speaking of the Messiah. Yet in each of these Psalms we can see Jesus fulfilling what is said in each. For example David wrote Psalm 18 because God had protected David from Saul. Saul had hunted David, the King to be, trying to prevent this from happening. While this is a long Psalm, take the time to read it through two times. The first from David's eyes and experience. Then read it again and think about what you know about Jesus and his life and God's salvation through him. While nothing is said about Jesus or the Messiah, what passages strike you that Jesus fulfilled or experienced? Do the same thing as you read Psalm 21. Psalm 45 is believed to be written for Solomon on the occasion of his wedding. What indirect Messianic themes do you see in relation to Christ and the church as his bride? As you read Psalm 72, remember that it is a Psalm for Solomon. Consider the story of Solomon. Where had Solomon failed to live up to the requests in this Psalm? Where does Jesus fulfill these petitions? Ponder today what it means that Jesus, while never directly mentioned or even really thought about, fulfills these passages. What does this tell you about God? What does this say about how we should understand Jesus' reign as King?

Tuesday, May 10th – Psalms 89, 101 and 132 (Indirect Messianic)

We will look at a few more indirect Messianic Psalms today. As you read Psalm 89, what are God's promises (vss. 1-29)? What happens if David's descendants fall away from God (vss. 30-45)? What does the Psalmist plead with God for (vss. 46-51)? Notice how the Psalm ends. It is generic praise! How does Jesus fulfill all that was said in this Psalm? Psalm 101 is about living a life of integrity. What two aspects are needed to do this (vs. 2)? How did Jesus live this life? How does Jesus help you to live this life? Notice that Jesus is not mentioned anywhere and yet we see Jesus in this Psalm. Finally, turn to Psalm 132. What is the promise the Psalmist is reminding God about (vss. 11-12)? How does this point to Jesus? How does Jesus fulfill all of this Psalm? What an awesome God we have who fulfills all his promises even if we don't live long enough to see them! We will see them in the end. Spend time today thanking God for his faithfulness.

Wednesday, May 11th – Psalms 2, 110 and 118 (Explicit Messianic)

Now we turn to the explicit Messianic Psalms, the psalms that speak directly about the Messiah/Christ. We are only going to spend one day on the explicit Messianic Psalms, as there are only four of them total. We discussed Psalm 22 in worship. Today we will look at the other three. Let's begin with Psalm 2. What does this tell you about Jesus and his rule? Who does he rule over (vss. 6-8)? What happens to those who refuse to bow before God's anointed King (vss. 4-5)? How does that make you feel, knowing you don't have to defend Jesus, that God will do that on His own? Psalm 110 also supports that God will defend his chosen King. Jesus was obedient to God. What promise does God make (vs. 1)? Part of the Good News is that the Kingdom of God is here, now, being established as we speak,

living and breathing. What does this say about the Chosen King? How does Jesus fit this description? What does it say about those who will refuse God's anointed? Now we turn to Psalm 118. As you read this Psalm, consider the stories you have read and heard about Jesus. Remember, the author was not thinking of Jesus when he wrote these words, and yet, Jesus fulfills these words. Not only does he fulfill the words, he quotes them to show he is God's anointed. Read Psalm 118 out loud and then let this be your praise today of God's anointed one, who he sent to save us. Let the joy of praise wash over you!

Thursday, May 12th – Psalms 24, 47, and 93 (Enthronement)

Today we turn to the Enthronement Psalms. These are the Psalms that speak to God and ask him to be King over us all. While we have spoken of God and his anointed Jesus, today we think triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. All sit on the throne as one. This concept is difficult to wrap our minds around. So today and tomorrow, think God, the three-in-one God, for these Psalms. As you read Psalm 24, verse 1 tells you why God is King. What is the reason? Who can come before the King of all creation (vss. 3-6)? As you read verses 7-10, imagine what that would have looked like in the ancient world. What does it look like today to open up ancient gates to let the King in? Where do you need to let the King in? Turning to Psalm 47, what does the Psalmist declare (vs. 2)? If God is King over all the earth, what does that mean when people refuse to acknowledge that fact? Does it change the fact? When nations behave improperly, does God still rule supremely? How do these understandings support our hope in God? Continuing with this thought process, now read Psalm 93. How does this Psalm support and agree with the other two? If God reigns forever, what have we to fear? Rulers, worldly kings, presidents, dictators, will all die someday. They may make life miserable for a generation or two, but eventually, God, who rules creation will correct their wrongs. Rejoice for your King and ultimate ruler is God, who loves you!

Friday, May 13th – Psalms 97, 98, and 99 (Enthronement)

We close our series with the last three Enthronement Psalms. As you read 97, what descriptions are used to describe the enthronement of God? What kind of emotions do these descriptions evoke? What is the call to the believer (vss. 10-11)? How does Christ help us to live into these verses? Psalm 22:3 says: "*Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.*" Read Psalm 98. How does this Psalm fulfill the statement made in Psalm 22? How does Psalm 22 help you to see Psalm 98 as an enthronement psalm? Why do you think this is considered Enthronement and not general praise? Can it be both? Finally, we turn to Psalm 99. What does this tell us about the King (vs. 1)? Why should we praise the enthroned King (vs. 4)? How does this apply to you? I encourage you to read these three Psalms out loud and let your praises enthrone your God.

Saturday, May 14th – In preparation for tomorrow's worship, please read Romans 8:14-17.