

DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God, we should commit to 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.

Monday, October 11th – 1 Kings 7:13-37

This week we will start with the furnishings in the Temple. To do anything correctly, we need the right people. Whom did Solomon seek out and what were his qualifications (vss. 13-14)? What are the first things that Hiram created (vss. 15-22)? Consider the size of your living room compared to the width of these columns. What is the next thing created by Hiram (vss. 23-26)? Do you remember for what purpose the sea existed? They needed to fill the sea with water, so what did Hiram create next (vss. 27-37)? Once again, consider the size as well as the ornate decorations on each one. What were some of the common decorations used on these items? Do you remember any of these from the construction of the Tabernacle? As you read about each of these, which caused you to pause in awe and the splendor of it all? What does this reveal to you about God? Consider the giftedness of Hiram in creative construction and how spectacular the things were that he made to honor God. What does this point out to you about humanity? When we use the gifts God gives us, we produce much fruit – and beautiful fruit – as well. How does this point to Jesus? Where is his temple? Have you made it as beautiful as possible to glorify Him?

Tuesday, October 12th – 1 Kings 7:38-51

We continue with the furnishings of the Temple today. We left off with the carts to carry water. How would this be accomplished in the use of these carts (vss. 38-39)? Pretty ingenious. What other items had Hiram created (vs. 40)? In verses 40b – 45, we see an inventory list of all that was created by Hiram at the King's direction. Where did Solomon decide all these creations should be made and how (vss. 46-47)? Can you even imagine how much bronze was used? It boggles the mind. But in addition to these bronze items, what else did Solomon have created for the Temple (vss. 48-50)? So bronze and gold were the main metals used. Pause here a moment and imagine what that would have looked like in the midst of all the stone and wood. Pretty spectacular. When construction was finished, what did Solomon do (vs. 51)? More gold and gifts. How does all this magnificence reveal God to you? How does it pale in comparison to who God is? What does this reveal to you about humanity and our ability to save and to give God our gifts freely? How does this point to Jesus and the preparations we should have in place as the church? Should the beauty be in our buildings or in our lives?

Wednesday, October 13th – 2 Chronicles 3:1 - 4:6

We turn today to the Chroniclers' description of the building construction and furnishings. As we read, we need to remember worship and worship practices are very important to the Chronicler. The Temple was also important in that it was being rebuilt after the exile. What information about location is told to us and why is this important (vss. 1-2)? As we move forward, notice the size of the Temple. This is about 1/3 the size of a football field. What other things did Solomon do to make the temple beautiful (vss. 4-7)? These cover just the foundation and entry ways. Remember this is a Holy of Holies. How large was the Holy of Holies and how was it decorated (vss. 8-13)? What was across the entrance way to the Holy of Holies (vs. 14)? Now continue reading from 3:15 through 4:6. What name do you see missing in this description? Do you see any other differences (4:1 and 1 Kings 7:48)? What impresses you most of these objects? How do you think this encouraged the worship of God? How do these texts point to God? What do they reveal about us as humanity? How do these texts reveal or point to Jesus?

Thursday, October 14th – 2 Chronicles 4:7 – 5:1

We complete the Chronicler's description of the Temple today. What additional information do we have about the Temple (vss. 7-10)? Do you remember what the candles and tables were used for in the Tabernacle? Why do you think there are ten times more in the Temple? As we move to verse 11, look whose name appears. What is the inventory that Hiram completed (vss. 11-18)? What additional items were provided by Solomon (vss. 19-22)? Consider today how all these items helped Israel to worship. Consider how all this beauty distracted from the worship of God. What things do we have that point to God as an aide to help us worship? What things get in the way of our worship and become objects of our worship? Consider how gold, silver, no debt, leaves us with a false sense of security. We put our trust in those things, rather than relying on the LORD. What does this reveal to you about our own selves? What does this reveal about God? How does this point to Jesus?

Friday, October 15th – 1 Kings 8:1-11 and 2 Chronicles 5:2-14

As we close this week, there is one more furnishing that needs to be added to the new Temple. That is the Ark of the Covenant. Let's start with 1 Kings. Who gets the invitation to participate and when and where does the party start (vss. 1-2)? As we read on, who moves the Ark? What goes with the Ark of the Covenant and once it arrives at the Temple, what happens (vss. 3-5)? In verses 6-8 we see the description of placing the Ark in its resting place within the Most Holy space. Is there anything that strikes you about this description (vs. 8)? Verse 9 reveals what is in the Ark. What does it say? Do you remember what two objects are missing? In Exodus they placed a jar of manna in the Ark, as well as Aaron's blossoming rod. Once the Ark is in place, what happens (vss. 9-10)? The glory of the Lord in this case is the actual "presence of God" within the Temple in the form of a cloud so thick that the Priests had leave the Temple. Now let's read 2 Chronicles straight through and come back. Verses 2-10 are identical to the 1 Kings telling of this event. Starting at verse 11 however, something changes. What is added? Why does the Chronicler add this information? Do you remember the Chronicler's purpose for writing? This is a powerful description of true worship and the presence of God in the people's midst. What does this reveal to you about God? What does it reveal to you about humanity? Where did we get it right in this case? How does this point to Jesus? Consider this verse: John 4:23-24. Find some time today to truly worship God in spirit and in truth.

Saturday, October 16th - For tomorrow please read 1 Kings 8:22-52.