

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 18th – 1 Kings 8:12-21; 2 Chronicles 6:1-11

This week we will observe and participate in the dedication of the Temple. Everything is in place including the presence of God. We start off with Solomon's praising God. Let's read 1 Kings 8:12-16 and 2 Chronicles 6:1-6. Why is Solomon praising God? How were God's words truthful? As we move on, read the rest of both texts. Notice why the Temple was built. What does it honor? The Temple is a tool that will point to God so Israel will remember and worship God alone. All the fulfilled promises and the covenant with God are there at the Temple. Considering how the church is patterned after the Temple, how do the things in the sanctuary point to God? Consider a time when during worship you could sense the presence of God so strongly that you felt enveloped by the presence. That is what was felt on this day during the dedication. What does this reveal about God? What does this reveal about those who worship God? How does this point to Jesus? Consider for this question that Jesus worshipped at the Temple and Jesus is another fulfilled promise of God.

Tuesday, October 19th – 1 Kings 8:22-53

Today we turn to Solomon's prayer of dedication. It is long but powerful, so let's begin. Read straight through the prayer and then come back, so we can examine it more closely. Going back to the beginning, what two promises did God fulfill that Solomon praises and thanks God for doing (vss. 23-26)? Why does God keep his promises (vs. 23)? As we move to verse 27, what fact does Solomon make about God? So, while God is everywhere at once, and not trapped in a building, what is it that Solomon asks of God (vss. 28-30)? Now let's look at verses 31-43. What is the request of God in verses 31-32? Verses 33-40 address what particular issue? Each setting is different, but the problem is all due to this issue of sin. In each case, what does Solomon ask of God? What is expected of the people? Then there is a break starting in verses 41-45. What is the scene of these prayers? Who is involved in the praying? We return to the repeated theme of sin, starting in verse 46. How does God deal with the sin in this section? Notice what the request of God is in this scenario (vss. 50-51)? Notice there is no request to return them, just for mercy on them. This part of the prayer came true in the attack of Assyria on the Northern Kingdom and then by the conquest of Judah and Jerusalem by Babylon. Why does Solomon ask God to hear his and the people's requests (vss. 52-53)? What does this reveal to you about God? What does this reveal to you about humanity (vs. 46)? How does this point to our need for Jesus?

Wednesday, October 20th – 2 Chronicles 6:12-42

We will now turn to the Chronicler's telling of Solomon's dedication prayer. Much of what we observed yesterday will be in today's prayer. Read the prayer all the way through. We see an almost identical prayer. Yet there is a change at the end. What has the Chronicler added to Solomon's prayer that was not in 1 Kings (vss. 41-42)? Remember that the Chronicler is interested in rebuilding the Temple properly and with faithful acts of worship. How do these two verses support that understanding? How do they point to worship? Who is included at the end of this prayer that is not included in the 1 Kings version? As we have read this prayer two days in a row, do these words fill you with awe? Do you have a better understanding of how sinfulness is unacceptable to God? Consider how Solomon and the people know this and yet they still sin. What does this say about God? Is He just in not putting up with our sin, especially since humans know when they sin against God? What does this reveal about us as humans? How does this prayer point to our need for Jesus? Spend some time in prayer today. Thank God for Jesus and the forgiveness of your sins. Ask for the Holy Spirit to keep you walking the straight and narrow and convict you of your sin so you can stay pure. Praise God for His faithfulness forever.

Thursday, October 21st – 1 Kings 8:54-66

Let the worship begin! Well, all of this week has been worship, but the final dedication of the Temple itself will take place with the worship and celebration style of Solomon's time. We start off with Solomon finishing his prayer to God. What happens next (vss. 54-60)? What should be the fruit of the Temple and the blessing upon God's people (vs. 60)? Wow, so all the people will know, not just the Israelites. So important and relative to us today. Now the prayers and blessings are over what comes next (vss. 62-64)? Verses 65-66 tells us how the dedication celebration ends. What festival was celebrated during this time? How many days was the total celebration, Festival, and dedication? As the people went home what did that look like? What does this reveal to you about God? What does it reveal to you about God's people and humanity in general? How was this a foretaste of the festivals we celebrate today? (Think Pentecost and who was saved that day [Acts 2].) How does this point to Jesus and the mission of his church?

Friday, October 22nd – 2 Chronicles 7:1-10

We close the week out with the Chronicler's description of the closing events. Take a moment and read through the 10 verses. What immediately stuck out to you that was in today's text, but not yesterday's (vss. 1-3)? Pretty impressive. But there is additional information found in verses 4-6 as well. What/who has been added? The remaining verses were as 1 Kings. In verse 10 it says the people went home with joy and gladness. What is the reason given for their joy and gladness? Has the Lord been good to you? Then spend the rest of this week in joy and gladness for the things God has done for you and given you. Even in sorrow, you can experience God's joy.

Saturday, October 24th - For tomorrow please read 1 Kings 9:1-9