

DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God, we should commit 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, July 4th – 1 Chronicles 20:1-30 Happy Independence Day!

This week we will focus on the rest of Jehoshaphat's reign. What is Jehoshaphat's response to the news in verses 1 and 2? What is his first course of action (vss. 3-4)? Read Jehoshaphat's prayer to God (vss. 5-12). Let's break it down. How does it start? What does it acknowledge (vss. 6-9)? There is a lot of history and promises from God in these verses. Is this to remind God or to remind himself and the people? Starting in verse 10 we read a short history lesson. What are the people of that time and we, today's readers, being reminded of in this recap? This event happened hundreds of years before this moment and yet Jehoshaphat declares "this is how they reward us!" When it comes to God's promises, how long do they endure according to Jehoshaphat? What does Jehoshaphat ask of God (vs. 12)? How does God respond and what is his answer (vss. 13-17)? How does everyone respond (vss. 18-19)? Now it is the day of the battle. How does it start and what does Jehoshaphat say and do (vss. 20-21)? How does the battle go down (vss. 22-26)? Although the troops gathered great plunder from the dead army, what happens when they arrive home (vss. 27-28)? It is important to gather together for worship of the victorious Lord of lords. How did this war affect the surrounding kingdoms (vss. 29-30)? Imagine if we celebrated God's victories so publicly and faithfully. Who would it draw to Jesus? What does this reveal to you about God? What does it reveal to you about humanity? Consider the humility and actions in a moment of fear. They turned to God as a community first. Do we do that? How does this point to or reveal Jesus? Remember our greatest enemy is our sinfulness. How has Jesus won the victory for us? Spend some time in prayer today, thanking God for the victory and asking him to help Saint James move into a new season of faithful living for His glory's sake!

Tuesday, July 5th – 2 Kings 1:1-18

Today we return to the Northern Kingdom and their new king, Ahaziah, Ahab's son. What is the first thing we learn that happens after Ahab's death (vs. 1)? Meanwhile we see there has been an accident. Who is hurt and from whom does he seek help/information (vs. 2)? Definitely the wrong god to get help from! How does the LORD get involved (vss. 3-4)? Did you notice that Elijah is to go to Baal's messengers and not to the king? What happens when the messengers deliver the LORD's message to Ahaziah (vss. 5-8)? The king is not happy. So, what does Ahaziah order to be done (vs. 9)? What is Elijah's response (vs. 10)? What happens next (vss. 11-12)? This happens again but with a different ending this time. Read verses 13-15. What is different now? Who did Elijah listen to? Once in front of King Ahaziah, what happens (vs. 16)? What happens next (vs. 17a)? Who takes Ahaziah's place (vs. 17b)? Verse 18 is the summary verse of Ahaziah's reign. What does this reveal to you about God? About ourselves? How are we like Ahaziah? How are we like the captains (all three of them)? How does this point to Jesus? Consider the several times the crowds tried to kill Jesus, but Jesus was able to slip away unharmed. God knows the timing of our deaths. We should be like Jesus and live fully for God's glory in both our lives and in our deaths.

Wednesday, July 6th – 2 Kings 3:1-27

You will notice today we are going to skip chapter 2. That's because we are reading chronologically, and we will get to chapter 2 next week. If you recall, yesterday started with Moab rebelling after Ahab's death. That is where we will pick up things today. We start off with a little bit about our new king, Joram. Remember he was Ahaziah's brother, which made him Ahab's son. What significant thing do we learn about Joram (vss. 2-3)? So, while he doesn't worship Baal, he still worships the golden calves. Now back to the war. Read verses 4-11. Does this sound familiar (2 Chronicles 18:1-8)? Who are they going to meet and what happens when they get there (vss. 12-19)? Well, was Elisha's prophecy correct (vs. 20)? Now let's see what is happening in Moab (vss. 21-22)? They are ready to go when they see what (vs. 23)? Why would they think that? This has happened before but against Israel's enemies. Now it appears to Moab that it has happened to Israel. What happens next (vss. 24-26)? With failure at hand what does the King of Moab do (vs. 27)? What are some reasons you can think of that he would do this? Why would Israel be angered? What do these verses reveal about God? About ourselves? How do they point to Jesus?

Thursday, July 7th – 1 Kings 22:42-50 and 2 Chronicles 20:31- 21:1

Today we will finish Jehoshaphat's story. Read both texts before we begin. What do they tell us about Jehoshaphat as a king (vss. 22:43 and 20:32)? But Jehoshaphat was not a perfect king. What did he do wrong? What happened to the fleet of ships? What reason did our Chronicles piece give regarding the fleet destruction (20:37)? Who follows Jehoshaphat to be king of Judah? What do these things reveal to us about God? Consider Jehoshaphat's life. Not perfect but yesterday we were reminded that Elisha only responded to their request because of Jehoshaphat. What does this reveal about us? Consider how we are very much like Jehoshaphat. How does this point to Jesus? Consider how much we need Jesus' righteousness to keep us in the presence of God.

Friday, July 8th – 2 Chronicles 21:2-17 and 2 Kings 8:16-20

We will close this week out reading about Jehoram's reign. Let's start by reading our 2 Kings text for a cursory overview of Jehoram's reign. Was Jehoram a good king like his father or a bad king? Why was he labeled like that? What did he do that led to the distinction? Now let's look at our 2 Chronicles text, as it is more detailed. What had Jehoshaphat done for all of his sons (vss. 2-3)? Why do you think he did this? Most likely to protect Jehoram's reign. But what happens instead (vs. 4)? Verses 5-6 tell us what 2 Kings said, that Jehoram's marriage to Ahab's daughter led him to be more like Ahab than his father, doing evil in the sight of the LORD. Up until now, Edom had been under Judah's rule. What happens to change that (vss. 5-11)? God decides how to handle Jehoram's wickedness, and Elijah writes him a letter revealing God's decision. What does the LORD through Elijah tell Jehoram (vss. 12-15)? Did this come to pass and if so, how (vss. 16-19a)? How do the people respond to this (vss. 19b-20)? Apparently, no one thought he was a good king. What does this reveal to you about God? Consider when wicked leaders become more wicked and lead others into wickedness. Does God handle it or leave it? What does this reveal about us as humans? Consider the suffering of innocent people. There is justice, so stay faithful. How does this point to Jesus? We may suffer from time to time from our sinfulness or the sins of others. But the consequences do not have the last word when we have Jesus. As Jesus suffered so we may need to suffer from time to time as well.

Saturday, July 9th – In preparation for tomorrow's worship, please read 2 Kings 2:1-18.