

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, September 20th – 2 Chronicles 1:1-6

We will focus this week on the gift of wisdom given to Solomon. Now that Solomon's reign as king is solidified, what does the author tell us about Solomon's rule (vs. 1). What is Solomon's first official act as the King of Israel (vss. 2-3)? Notice who is invited. Who seems to be missing? What is the significance of going to the Tabernacle built by Moses? Notice what is missing from the Tabernacle (vs. 4). Where was the Ark? What remained at the site of the Tabernacle (vs. 5)? Once they arrive at the Tabernacle, what does Solomon do (vs. 6)? Notice that the LORD's presence is at the altar at the Tabernacle and with the Ark of the Covenant in Jerusalem. What does that reveal to you about God? Notice the purpose of going to the Tabernacle beside the altar where Solomon offered a very large sacrifice. What is the other reason Solomon and the officials went to the Tabernacle (vs. 5)? What does this reveal to you about us as humans? What does it show about how decision-making should be made? Now consider how this points to or reveals Jesus. Where is the Tabernacle of God now? How did this come about through Jesus? If you are not sure you know where the Tabernacle of God or the Temple of God is now, may I suggest you go look in a mirror.

Tuesday, September 21st – 1 Kings 3:1-15

Today we return to 1 Kings. This chronologically follows what we read yesterday. Whose friendship does Solomon secure and how does he secure it (vs. 1)? While this was a common practice during this period (and actually up through the late 1800's/early 1900's) for royal kingdoms to secure peace through royal marriages, there is also a downside. In marrying foreign women and bringing them to Israel, false gods were introduced as well. In the end, this will lead to Solomon's downfall. How do verses 2-4 recap what we read yesterday? Do you see any differences? The place of the Tabernacle is declared "the most important" place when it comes to sacrifices. What happens after Solomon worships God through the large burnt offering (vs. 5)? God saw Solomon's heart and love for God, and therefore God asks Solomon what he wants God to give him. Take a moment and think about what you would ask from God. What is the first response of Solomon to God (vs. 6)? Note that Solomon is stating and praising God for who God is and what he has done in the past. Good place to start before we ask for anything. Verse 7 demonstrates Solomon's humility in that while he is King, he doesn't have all the answers. What facts does verse 8 tell us about Solomon's reality? How does verse 8 tie into verse 7? How does this lead to Solomon's request in verse 9? Who and how will wisdom be beneficial? What is God's response (vss. 10-12)? But that is not the only response, is it? What else does God say he will give Solomon (vss. 13-14)? God is giving two of the three promises straight out. The third (vs. 14) has strings attached. What is the expectation God has of Solomon to secure long life? How does this story end (vs. 15)? What do these verses reveal to you about God? What does it reveal about us? When do we get it right? When might we get it wrong? How does this point to Jesus? How was he the ultimate sacrifice? How did Jesus please God?

Wednesday, September 22nd – 2 Chronicles 1:7-13

Today we read the Chronicler's version of yesterday's text. There are a couple of differences. Read these verses to start. Now go back and see what is missing from Solomon's request of yesterday. What is not being stated? Why do you think the Chronicler left it out? What does God give to Solomon, following the granting of wisdom? What is missing from this list compared to yesterday? Notice there is no promise of long life, if Solomon follows and obeys God. Remember this was written post-exile from Babylon. Worship of God is one of the major themes of Chronicles. How do these verses demonstrate that? What does this text reveal to us about God? What does it reveal about us? How does it point to or reveal Jesus?

Thursday, September 23rd – 1 Kings 3:16-24

As we continue the beginnings of Solomon's reign, we see the gift of wisdom from God in action. What scene sets the stage for us (vss. 16-22)? Let's slow down for a minute before moving on. How are the women described? Wasn't this forbidden in Leviticus and Numbers and yet, here we are. Also, this points out that justice is for everyone. Imagine being a bystander in the court that day, not knowing the outcome. How would you discern who was telling the truth? Both women seem convincing. How does Solomon interrupt the arguing (vs. 23)? Sometimes recapping the facts helps to calm things down and give focus without emotion. Now that the facts have been given, what does Solomon ask for (vs. 24)? A sword? He asks for a sword. Again, imagine standing in court. What would you be thinking? Is he going to kill one of the women? The child? How could this be God's wisdom? What do these verses reveal about us as human beings? Consider the bystanders, the prostitutes, the King. How does this point to or reveal Jesus? What wise things did he do or say that seemed to confound the bystanders and even some of the participants?

Friday, September 24th – 1 Kings 3:25-28

We will close this week with our story of Solomon exercising the gift of wisdom. What is Solomon's resolution to the debate (vs. 25)? Again, imagine listening to this for the first time. What would you be thinking? What was the response of each woman (vs. 26)? What do their responses reveal about each woman? What is the King's verdict (vs. 27)? Now that is some serious wisdom. How did the bystanders and those who heard the story respond (vs. 28)? Do you feel the same sense of awe in the wisdom God gave Solomon? Have you considered that in asking for wisdom, God still freely gives? As we will in coming weeks, we have access to a lot of Solomon's wisdom through the books of wisdom attributed to him. What do these verses reveal to you about God? What do they reveal to you about you? How does this point to Jesus? Spend time today thanking God for the wisdom He has given you and be bold in asking for more.

Saturday, September 25th - For tomorrow please read 1 Kings 5:1-18.