

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 6th – Psalm 79

Today will begin our last week studying Psalms for a while. Let's start by reading Psalm 79. As discussed yesterday, it is believed that this Psalm may have been written by a descendent of Asaph, following Babylon's invasion of Jerusalem. What in verses 1-4 would indicate that this is a possibility? What descriptions does the Psalmist give? Verse 5 asks two questions of God. What are they and what do they reveal to us? If you are asking God if His anger will last forever against you, that is an indication and admission of sin. What does the Psalmist cry out to God to do and why (vss. 6-7)? How does verse 8 tie into verse 5? Verses 9-12 are a lament to God. What is asked of God and why? If God does as the people ask, what will the people do (vs. 13)? What does this Psalm reveal to you about God? What does it reveal about us and our lives? How does this Psalm point to or reveal Jesus?

Tuesday, September 7th – Psalm 80

Our psalm this day is also believed to have been written by a descendant of Asaph, after the Assyrians conquered Israel (the Northern Kingdom), decimating it and exiling God's people. Take a moment and read through the Psalm. What do verses 1-7 say about God and about Israel? All that has happened, according to the Psalmist, is because God has removed His protection and turned His face away. Why do you think they believe God did this? Verse 7 can help with the answer to this question. As we move to verses 8-13, we see a recap of what God had done for Israel. Much of this is metaphor describing what God did. What does this metaphor represent? What is the only hope that Israel has (vss. 14-19)? What does this reveal about God? What does it say about us? Can we save ourselves? From where does our salvation come? How does this point to Jesus? How does it point to God's faithfulness even when humanity is continually rebellious? What rebellion do you need to repent of today?

Wednesday, September 8th – Psalm 81

Today we read a festival hymn. We understand festival hymns because we have Christmas and Easter hymns to sing. This Psalm celebrates and remembers the Exodus from Egypt and would be sung during the Festival of Shelters. Take a moment now and read through Psalm 81. How does this Psalm begin (vss. 1-5)? How do we know it is a festival hymn (vss. 3 and 5a)? What history is recapped in verses 5b-16? What behavioral pattern is revealed? We saw this pattern in Joshua, Judges, and Samuel. What does God want for His creation (vss. 16)? What gets in our way from having what God desires to give us (vss. 11-12)? What does this reveal to you about God? About yourself and all humanity? How does this point to or reveal Jesus? (Consider what Jesus says he is in some of the "I AM" statements.) Perhaps today would be a great day to play some Christmas or Easter hymns on your phone or computer and celebrate.

Thursday, September 9th – Psalm 82

Our Psalm today speaks to God being the ultimate fair judge. Let's start by reading through the Psalm. What is the setting of this Psalm and what does God ask (vss. 1-2)? Instead of what has been happening what should be happening (vss. 3-5)? On Sunday we spoke about what could be meant by "heavenly beings." These would be the people that God gave authority to judge. We see in verse 6 why it is understood this way. What will happen to those who are judging (vs. 6-7)? Judges come and judges go, like everyone else. What is the final plea to God (vs. 8)? What does this Psalm reveal to you about God? What does it reveal to you about humanity? We should speak out and fight for godly justice for those mentioned in verses 3 and 4. How does this point to Jesus? Consider the justice Jesus received when he went on trial. We see where fear, power and control can warp our understanding of justice and make us as unjust as they were towards Jesus. Let us pray asking God to give us a desire for Biblical justice, restorative justice in the world today.

Friday, September 10th – Psalm 83

We close out this week with Asaph's last Psalm, Psalm 83. Take a moment and read through it. What does the Psalmist call on God to do and why (vss. 1-2)? What are the enemies doing and just who are the enemies (vss. 3-8)? Kind of sounds like today, doesn't it? What follows is a request that God act as He has acted in the past. What does the Psalmist ask God to do (vss. 9-15)? As we arrive at verse 16, notice a slight shift from destruction to something else. What does the Psalmist ask God to make sure that it happens (vss. 16-18)? Notice we go from destruction of the enemies to convincing them that the LORD alone is Most High, Supreme, and then submit to God. What does this reveal to you about God? What does it reveal to you about humanity? Consider how you pray. Do you pray for God to reveal Himself as LORD of all to your enemies and those who do not believe? How does this point to Jesus and His mission to reveal God to the world? How are you invited into that mission? Consider whom you can pray for today, asking God to reveal Himself to that person or that group. Then let the light of Jesus shine through you!

Saturday, September 11th - For tomorrow please read 1 Chronicles 29:23-25.