

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 of the book. 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, Sept. 10th – Leviticus 21

We will start this week reviewing the holiness code for Priests. Remember that the reason this is important is that the priests have been charged to teach the people, and they are expected to live lives that are holy and clean before the Lord. As we read verses 1-5, what should priests avoid, so as to not become ceremonially unclean? Note the exceptions made for the priests in these verses. This does show God's understanding for grief of close loved ones. The reason why these parameters are set for priests is found in verse 6. What is the reason God gives? Marital purity is also important. What are the restrictions in this regard and the reason (vss. 7-8)? How does this extend to the daughters of priests (vs. 9)? This is the holiness code for priests. Next, we see the holiness code for the chief or high priest. Read verses 10-15 and note the higher level of behavior for chief priests. God continues to set boundaries for priests to observe. Read verses 16-24. God does not discount those with physical defects (to use the Bible's term), but they may not present gifts of food to God. How do we know that God does not discount their human worth and heritage (vs. 22)? And what is the reason again that God gives for this physical expectation, in order to serve (vs. 23)? What does this reveal to us about God's holiness and God's expectations? What does this reveal to you about yourself? We are called the royal priesthood when we are part of the church. Since God did not give up His holiness, what is expected of us? How does this text point to Jesus? How did he fulfill God's expectations of the chief priest? How does Jesus make you holy for our holy God? Spend some quiet time today, thinking about what remains unholy in your life and ask Jesus to remove it from you.

Tuesday, Sept 11th – Leviticus 22

We continue the instructions to the priests and the Israelites regarding protocols for the priests. As you read verses 1-16, what is the overarching subject being addressed? Pause for a moment and consider why this would be necessary to spell out for everyone. What is the reason for spelling this all out and what will be the consequences for failing to obey these instructions (vs. 9)? At the end of the passage, there are instructions for those eating the offerings accidentally. What are they (vs. 14)? Now let's read about the kind of offerings that will be acceptable by reading verses 17-26. What is the only acceptable type of animal (vss. 19, 21)? Which kind of animal will never be acceptable (vss. 20, 22)? When can a calf be offered to the Lord (vs. 26)? When can it's mother be offered (vs. 27)? What happens when the sacrifice instructions are not followed (vss. 32-33)? How would failing to follow God's instructions bring shame on God's holy name? What do these verses reveal to us about God? What do they reveal about us – how easy it is for us to make excuses and not offer God our best? How does this point to Jesus being the perfect sacrifice thus we no longer need to make animal sacrifices to honor God? What do we need to do to honor God's holy name? Are you doing it?

Wednesday, Sept. 12th – Leviticus 23:1-25

Today will be our party day, as we review the wonderful festivals that God asks Israel to celebrate and commemorate. What is the first "mini," but very important festival to practice weekly (vss. 1-4)? Sabbath is a day of physical rest and spiritual renewal with God and God's family. We should still be partaking in this festival every week. Now read verses 5-8. What is the next festival? What does it commemorate? In addition to special offerings and eating the Passover meal, notice they get two extra days off with no work. Now read verses 9-14. This is the first harvest festival. When will this festival go into effect (vs. 10)? Notice what needs to be offered on this day. It is not just grain. What does vs. 14 require? No toast with breakfast that day. Next comes the Festival of Harvest, which is 7 weeks later. We call this Pentecost. What is the offering for this celebration (vss. 17-19)? What else happens on this day (vs. 21)? Verse 22 gives instructions on how the harvest is to be accomplished. Who is God looking out for on this day? What do these celebrations reveal about God? What do they tell us about ourselves and our needs as human beings? How do they point to our ultimate celebration in Jesus' resurrection? Where do you need to celebrate more in your life? Where do you need to do more Sabbath?

Thursday, Sept 13th – Leviticus 23:26-44

Today we will finish the festivals, focusing on the Day of Atonement and the Festival of Booths or Shelters. As you may recall, atonement is simple the "at-one-ment" with God or reconciliation with God. Reconciliation is needed because we miss the mark in loving God and loving others through omission and commission. When does the Day of Atonement take place (vs. 27)? What happens on this day (vs. 28)? As we see in verse 29, fasting is part of this celebration and required. When was the last time you fasted (denied yourself) before God? What does God declare this day to be for all of Israel (vs. 32)? Do you think God believes we need Sabbath? We move from here to the Festival of Shelters. When is this festival to take place (vs. 34)? Did you notice that these festivals are listed in the order that they will be celebrated? How long does this celebration last (vs. 34b)? Notice that verses 37-38 are a recap of the order of Festivals. Moving to 39, we return to the elements of the Festival of Shelters. How is this festival celebrated (vss. 40-42)? What is its purpose (vss. 43-44)? When was the last time you went camping with God for seven days? What a creative reminder of what God has done! What does this reveal about God? About you? About Jesus. Spend some time today celebrating what God has done for you.

Friday, Sept 14th – Leviticus 24

As we begin chapter 24, we see that there are instructions/reminders about the oil to be used and the bread to be used in the Tabernacle. In verse 1-4, what are the instructions the Lord gives regarding the oil and why are these instructions given to Israel and the priests? What else goes into the Tabernacle (vs. 5-7)? Why is this to be done (vs. 8)? Who will eat these loaves (vs. 9)? How is this representative of what we do on Communion Sunday? Now that we have covered the holy code, the cleanness and the uncleanness, the festivals, what do they do when someone breaks the rules? What are the just judgments for disobedience? Verses 10-15 set this discussion up with an example. As you read these verses, what is the situation? Who did what? What does God deem as the appropriate just judgment upon the son (vs. 14)? From verses 16 through 22, we see the just judgment for various offenses against the Lord and against on another. Note that foreigners living in the midst of Israel are subject to the same rules and judgments. Also note who carries out the judgment (vs. 23). The whole community is responsible for keeping the community pure, and keeping God's name and ordinances holy. What does this reveal to you about our Holy God and His tolerance for disobedience (sin)? Does God play favorites or make exceptions? What does this reveal about us as the created ones of a Holy God? Finally, how does Jesus play into the fulfillment of judgment against a sinful creation? Consider how many times you have used the Lord's name in vain. Have you ever injured someone? We need to start making these judgments personally, applying them to our own lives, so that we can better understand what Jesus has done for us. With every lash of the whip and every hammering of the nail, Jesus took the punishment that was due you. Make sure you take time to be humble, grateful and give thanks to Jesus.

Saturday, September 15th – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read Leviticus 19:1-2.