

## One Year Bible – Week 24

### **Summary: John / Acts Reading**

Ananias and Sapphira make a poor choice. The apostles are arrested by religious leaders and give glory to God. Stephen testifies before the Sanhedrin and is martyred. As a result great persecution happens in Jerusalem and the followers are scattered from the city. The Gospel spreads. Saul of Tarsus who was persecuting followers meets Jesus on the road to Damascus and is changed.

### **Summary: 2 Samuel / 1 Kings Reading**

King David passes on instructions to his son Solomon and then dies. God grants Solomon a privileged request and he asks for wisdom. Solomon builds the temple during his reign. After forty years as king over Israel, Solomon dies.

### **Things to Look For and Questions to Ponder as You Read:**

- OT – Solomon builds the Temple almost 500 years after the Israelites were given instructions for its production. (1Ki 6:1) In 1Kings chs 5-8 we see the culmination of Israel's hope to have an established temple in worship of God. What observations do you make that connect these chapters to the instructions of the past? What do you think the Israelites were thinking and feeling at this moment? What is the significance of the Temple being built? – June 9-11
- NT – Stephen is seen by many as the first Christian martyr. (Acts 6:8-8:1) Stephen had drawn such attention because of the signs and wonders that he performed that he was seized and brought before the Sanhedrin. The account of Stephen's testimony before the Sanhedrin is a moving episode of devotion and conviction to the point of giving one's entire life for the sake of Jesus. What points, if any, of this story catch your attention? What do Stephen's words make you feel? How does Stephen's story affect the way you live out your life in response to Jesus?

### **Small Group Questions:**

- 1) OT – Read David's charge to Solomon in 1Kings 2:1-4. List the instructions that David gives to Solomon as he is to become king. What reason(s) do you observe that David gives to Solomon to follow his

- decrees? Why do you think David said this? How would you summarize what is important to God as described in David's final words here? – June 7
- 2) NT – Read the account of Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5:1-11. What was the crime that Ananias and Sapphira committed? Why is this offense seen as so serious – what is the problem with it? In your own words describe what Peter is saying in the question he asks Sapphira at the beginning of v 9. How does this story impact the way you live? – June 7
- 3) NT – After being arrested, set free from God, and again being brought back to be indicted before the Sanhedrin, the apostles refuse to stop teaching about Jesus. At this the Sanhedrin has them flogged before setting them free. Read Acts 5:40-42. What do you think about the apostles' reaction to the Sanhedrin? Is it surprising or expected? How do you think you would have responded in the same situation? Explain in your own words why the apostles rejoiced at their treatment from the Sanhedrin. What would be a similar situation today? How can we develop a similar perspective to the apostles in our own lives? – June 7
- 4) OT – Read Proverbs 16:25. Summarize in your own words what this proverb is warning against. What would be some modern day examples of what this verse is addressing? How easy would it be to discern if the person in this proverb were you? What can you do to prevent becoming this person? – June 7

### **Journal the Psalms this week:**

Often times we find ourselves giving effort in multiple directions and we live in a perpetual state of busyness. What is all your busyness achieving? What is driving you to do what you do? Read Psalm 127:1-2 and journal about your reflections in answer of these questions. – June 9

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### **Reading Schedule:**

1Ki = 1 Kings / Acts / Ps = Psalms / Pr = Proverbs



June 7 – 1Ki 2:1-3:3 / Acts 5:1-42 / Ps 125:1-5 / Pr 16:25  
June 8 – 1Ki 3:4-4:34 / Acts 6:1-15 / Ps 126:1-6 / Pr 16:26-27  
June 9 – 1Ki 5:1-6:38 / Acts 7:1-29 / Ps 127:1-5 / Pr 16:28-30  
June 10 – 1Ki 7:1-51 / Acts 7:30-50 / Ps 128:1-6 / Pr 16:31-33  
June 11 – 1Ki 8:1-66 / Acts 7:51-8:13 / Ps 129:1-8 / Pr 17:1  
June 12 – 1Ki 9:1-10:29 / Acts 8:14-40 / Ps 130:1-8 / Pr 17:2-3  
June 13 – 1Ki 11:1-12:19 / Acts 9:1-25 / Ps 131:1-3 / Pr 17:4-5