

One Year Bible – Week 27

Summary: Acts Reading

Paul travels to Corinth, Ephesus, and to Greece. Paul then heads to Jerusalem despite many warnings of the hostility he will likely face. Paul comes to Jerusalem and the Jews there riot at his presence and he is arrested. He testifies before the Jews and Roman soldiers of his conversion and arguments continue.

Summary: 2 Kings Reading

The book of Second Kings bounces back and forth between the kings of Israel in the north and the kings of Judah in the south. Israel continues to have numerous bad kings that do evil in God's sight until they are conquered by and disseminated into the Assyrian Empire. Judah does little better until the reigns of two kings after the exile of Israel: Hezekiah and Josiah. Jerusalem is finally taken by King Nebuchadnezzar of the Babylonian Empire and Judah disappears into the Babylonian captivity.

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

- *OT* – In the account detailing the exile of Israel into Assyria, the author talks of the reasons that had led up to their exile. Notice how God feels about Israel. Interestingly, there were a number of years that passed prior to this judgement. What reasons do you notice that explain God's judgement upon Israel? (2Ki:17) What do these observations indicate about God and the way we follow him? – June 30
- *NT* – Notice the name of the movement of Jesus that is given in some places in Acts: the Way. (Acts 19:9, 23) "The Way" was a phrase used to describe the early Christians. What does this name communicate to you? Do you think this was an appropriate title? Why or why not?

Small Group Questions:

- 1) *NT* – Early education. Read Acts 18:23-28. In this passage we meet a man named Apollos. Apollos knew a great deal about the Scriptures and was a passionate communicator about God; however, he did not have the whole story. Can you think of any stories or examples of this happening today? What are some other ways that Priscilla and Aquila could have responded to Apollos? What was good about the response they chose? How might Apollos have responded? What can we gain from this episode

to advise us on how we might approach other believers that we perceive to have flawed thinking? – June 28

- 2) *OT* – Josiah became king of Judah at the age of eight and reigned for over 30 years. Josiah was arguably Judah's best king. Upon discovering the book of the law that his predecessors did not follow, Josiah sought God's guidance. Read what God said in response to Josiah's inquiry. (2Ki 22:15-20) How does God see Josiah? How does God respond to Josiah? What does God give to Josiah and what does he say about his people? Why do you think God responded in this way? How does this interaction between God and Josiah inform the way we live out our faith? Read the description of Josiah in 2Ki 23:25. How does the life of Josiah relate to who we are called to be in relationship with God? – July 3
- 3) *NT* – Read Acts 20:22-24, part of Paul's farewell speech to the elders in Ephesus. In this passage Paul says he is compelled by the Holy Spirit to go to Jerusalem though there are dangers that he may face. Describe in your own words Paul's attitude toward the potential danger in his travelling. Why does he have this attitude? Do you know other believers that have a similar perspective as Paul in the matter of danger for the sake of the Kingdom of God? How can we live with, and encourage others to live with the same attitude that Paul shows here? – June 26

Journal the Psalms this week:

Psalm 146 offers praise to YHWH for who he is and what he does. Read this psalm and reflect upon the words of the psalmist (especially verses 6-10). How is God described here? Do you notice any connection with what/who God cares about as recorded in this Psalm? Journal your reflections and your view of God's character as a result of what you observed in this reading. – June 28

Reading Schedule:

2Ki = 2 Kings / Acts / Ps = Psalms / Pr = Proverbs



June 28 – 2Ki 13:1-14:29 / Acts 18:23-19:12 / Ps 146:1-10 / Pr 18:2-3
June 29 – 2Ki 15:1-16:20 / Acts 19:13-41 / Ps 147:1-20 / Pr 18:4-5
June 30 – 2Ki 17:1-18:12 / Acts 20:1-38 / Ps 148:1-14 / Pr 18:6-7
July 1 – 2Ki 18:13-19:37 / Acts 21:1-16 / Ps 149:1-9 / Pr 18:8
July 2 – 2Ki 20:1-22:2 / Acts 21:17-36 / Ps 150:1-6 / Pr 18:9-10
July 3 – 2Ki 22:3-23:30 / Acts 21:37-22:16 / Ps 1:1-6 / Pr 18:11-12
July 4 – 2Ki 23:31-25:30 / Acts 22:17-23:10 / Ps 2:1-12 / Pr 18:13