

Read Through The Bible

Week 30 – Aug 25-31, 2024

Hose 8-12; 1 Chronicles 1-6; Romans 8-12; Palms 89, Proverbs 17:25-18:16

Icebreaker

- What kind of listener are you?
- How many people can you name that turned away from God?
- Who do you know that cannot control his words? What do people think about them?

Step 1 - GET REAL

What are you thankful for from the past week?

What struggles did you face?

What can you share from your personal Bible reading this week?

Where did you see God in your daily life?

Step 2: GET FED

Hosea

Hosea 9:17 *17 My God will reject them because they have not listened to him; they shall be wanderers among the nations.*

Hosea continues to list Israel's sins and that they will be taken away. How easy would it have been for Israel to obey God's commands? How easy is it for us to obey? Why would Israel disobey? Why do we disobey?

Hosea 11:8-9 *8 How can I give you up, O Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender. 9 I will not execute my burning anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and not a man, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath.*

We see God's love for Israel. He is hurt to have to send Israel into captivity. Eventually they will return because of God's love. What does this love mean for us? Will God allow us to be lost? Will God take us back if we return to Him? Where are we compared to Israel's journey?

1st Chronicles

1st Chronicles 1:19 *To Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was Peleg (for in his days the earth was divided), and his brother's name was Joktan. (compare Genesis 10:25)*

Many geologists believe the earth was once a single land mass called Pangea which divided into the existing continents today. Could these 2 verses be evidence of this theory? Would this indicate the bible is more scientific than thought by many?

1st Chronicles 5:18-22 *18 The Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh had valiant men who carried shield and sword, and drew the bow, expert in war, 44,760, able to go to war. 19 They waged war against the Hagrites, Jetur, Naphish, and Nodab. 20 And when they prevailed over them, the Hagrites and all who were with them were given into their hands, for they cried out to God in the battle, and he granted their urgent plea because they trusted in him. 21 They carried off their livestock: 50,000 of their camels, 250,000 sheep, 2,000 donkeys, and 100,000 men alive. 22 For many fell, because the war was of God. And they lived in their place until the exile.*

1st Chronicles 5:23-26 *23 The members of the half-tribe of Manasseh lived in the land. They were very numerous from Bashan to Baal-hermon, Senir, and Mount Hermon. 24 These were the heads of their fathers' houses: Ephraim, Ishi, Eliel, Azriel, Jeremiah, Hodaviah, and Jahdiel, mighty warriors, famous men, heads of their fathers' houses. 25 But they broke faith with the God of their fathers, and whored after the gods of the peoples of the land, whom God had destroyed before them. 26 So the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul*

king of Assyria, **the spirit of Tiglath-pileser** king of Assyria, **and he took them into exile**, namely, the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh, and brought them to Halah, Habor, Hara, and the river Gozan, to this day.

Such a contrast between the start and the end. They trusted in God and He gave them their urgent plea. They went after the gods of the people of the land and God gave them into the hand of the king of Assyria and exile. How easy is it to switch from allegiance to disloyalty, from true worship to idol worship? Where are we in this journey? What idols do we worship today? What can we do to prevent turning to idols?

Romans

Romans 8:1-11 **1** There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.¹ **2** For the law of the Spirit of life has set you² free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. **3** For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. **By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin,³ he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5** For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. **6** For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. **7** For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. **8** Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. **10** But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, **the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11** If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus⁴ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through **his Spirit** who dwells in you.

What is the difference between life in the flesh and life in the Spirit? Which life are you living? How do you know?

Romans 8:16-17 **16** The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, **17** and if children, then heirs—**heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ**, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

What a magnificent gift, fellow heirs with Christ! What is the requirement? Do you have the Spirit in you?

Romans 8:26-27 **8:26** Likewise **the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. 27** And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints **according to the will of God.**

How important is the phrase “according to the will of God”? Should our prayers follow the same recipe? How often have you been unable to phrase your prayers properly and relied on the Spirit to do it for you?

Romans 8:31-39 **31** What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us? 32** He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? **33** Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. **34** Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. **35** **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? **36** As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” **37** No, in all these things **we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38** For I am sure that **neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39** nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8 is one of the most beloved chapters in the entire Scripture. What other promises could top these? Why would God give up His Son for us? What should this mean to us? What should be our response to this action? What is the only thing that can separate us from God? How can we prevent this?

Romans 10:2-4 **2** For I bear them witness that *they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.* **3** For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. **4** For **Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.**
What good is zeal if we do not have righteousness? How do we submit to God's righteousness? Do we also need zeal? How would you rate yourself on zeal? On righteousness?

Romans 11:7-8 **7** What then? Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking. The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened, **8** as it is written, "**God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day.**"
Do we have a spirit of stupor? How can we keep from having this spirit?

Romans 12:1-2 **1** I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.** **2** **Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.**
What does it mean to be a living sacrifice? Think about what a sacrifice was in Old Testament times? Did it mean doing something hard or something else? What does it mean to be conformed to this world? How easy is that to do? How do you look different from the world? How are we to be transformed? What does it mean to be transformed? How can we renew our mind?

Romans 12:9-18 **9** Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. **10** Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. **11** Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit,² serve the Lord. **12** Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. **13** Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. **14** Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. **15** Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. **16** Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. **17** Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. **18** If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

The header in front of this section of Scripture is "Marks of the True Christian". Which of these actions/attitudes are present in your life? Which are not? Which ones do you need to work on the most? What would our world look like if we all exhibited these? What effect would lives like this have on the world?

Psalms

Psalms 89:5-8 **5** Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones! **6** For **who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD,** **7** a God greatly to be feared in the council of the holy ones, and **awesome above all who are around him?** **8** O LORD God of hosts, **who is mighty as you are, O LORD,** with your faithfulness all around you?
How hard is it for us to incorporate this fact in our lives? What effect will it have if we can remember this constantly?

Proverbs

Proverb 18:2-7 **2** A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion. **3** When wickedness comes, contempt comes also, and with dishonor comes disgrace. **4** The words of a man's mouth are deep waters; the fountain of wisdom is a bubbling brook. **5** It is not good to be partial to the wicked or to deprive the righteous of justice. **6** A fool's lips walk into a fight, and his mouth invites a beating. **7** A fool's mouth is his ruin, and his lips are a snare to his soul.

What role do our words play in our lives? How can we control our mouth so that we are not like the fool described above?

Step 3: GET ACTIVE

- List five actions that can prevent falling from God's grace.
- Meditate on what it means to be fellow heirs with Christ. Write at least 5 benefits that come with this gift.
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- List five ways to renew our mind that we can live transformed lives

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