

# Read the Whole Bible with Pastor

## **Monday (July 31) – 1 Kings 1**

Adonijah, one of the sons of David, held a sacrifice and feast for the purpose of declaring himself king. This was rebellion since God had promised that Solomon was to be king after David. It says that Adonijah “exalted himself” (vs. 5). The Book of James says, “Humble yourselves before the Lord and he will exalt you” (4:10). Do not exalt yourself but trust in the Lord to exalt you in Christ. Sadly, some of David’s most trusted servants joined Adonijah in his rebellion. Joab the commander of the army and Abiathar the priest both helped Adonijah in his conspiracy. These were two faithful servants who shared in David’s suffering when Saul was persecuting David. The example of Joab and Abiathar serves as a warning to you, dear Christian. Even God’s faithful servants who endured affliction and trial for Christ’s sake can still fall away. Therefore, be steadfast in praying for faithfulness to Christ until He calls you home. Lastly, God watches over and preserves His own children against the children of the world. He sent Nathan the prophet to spur David into acting to ensure Solomon became anointed king after David. Adonijah begs Solomon for forgiveness which Solomon gives to him as long as his repentance is sincere. Solomon is a type of Christ. Like Solomon, Jesus is anointed King despite the world’s hatred and opposition. He also extends forgiveness to all those who repent and follow Him.

## **Tuesday (August 1) – 1 Kings 2**

Before David died he called his son Solomon and encouraged him to walk in the ways of the Lord. Parents are to encourage their children to follow Christ and His Word. David also warned Solomon concerning individuals who were not sincere in their repentance and would be troublemakers. Adonijah showed that his repentance was not sincere because he asked for Abishag, one of David’s concubines, with plans of still stealing the kingdom away from Solomon. Solomon had forgiven him earlier but Adonijah’s request showed the unrepentance of his heart so Solomon had him executed as a traitor and rebel. Solomon dismisses Abiathar the High Priest from serving the Lord in the sanctuary for supporting Adonijah in his rebellion. When a pastor acts against the clear Word and command of the Lord he is no longer fit to serve in the Office of Holy Ministry. Solomon executes Joab because Joab revealed his wicked heart in helping Adonijah. Joab’s sins for murdering Abner and Amasa were not forgiven because he never repented and was executed for his blood guilt. Lastly, Solomon gave Shimei a chance but he too showed his unrepentant heart by refusing to abide by Solomon’s condition of never leaving Jerusalem and was also executed.

## **Wednesday (August 2) – 1 Kings 3**

Soon after Solomon begins his reign, he gives a large offering to God out of love for Him. The Lord appears to Solomon in a dream promising to give him whatever he asks for. Solomon asks for wisdom. The Book of James says, “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously...” (1:5). It is a godly prayer to ask God for wisdom who gives it

to us through faith in Christ and following His Word. Before you read Scripture, pray that God would grant you His Holy Spirit and wisdom to understand it rightly. Solomon demonstrated that he was given wisdom in the difficult case of the two prostitutes. The wisdom of Solomon is a weak picture of the Eternal Wisdom who became a man and is the Greater Solomon (Lk. 11:31). He rules, judges and governs us in His Kingdom with perfect wisdom, righteousness and justice.

#### **Thursday (August 3) – 1 Kings 4**

In this chapter the greatness and splendor of Solomon's kingdom is described. In wisdom Solomon ruled not just for his benefit but also for the common people. Everyone prospered under his wise and understanding rule. This is a picture of how under Christ's kingdom all who are under Him will also prosper and be eternally happy. Solomon's wisdom is again praised. Wisdom is applied knowledge and begins with the fear of the Lord (faith in Christ). Wisdom understands the order of God's creation (vs. 33) and how that applies to human heart and condition. Solomon wrote the following books of wisdom in the Bible: Proverbs, Song of Solomon and Ecclesiastes.

#### **Friday (August 4) – 1 Kings 5 and 6**

These two chapters describe how Solomon built the temple in Jerusalem. Before, the Israelites worshipped God at the tabernacle. God appears to Solomon and promises to dwell in the temple if the people walk in His commandments and ways (6:11-13). The temple would do no good to them if they rejected God and His word. In the same way God promises to dwell with you through His Word and Sacraments, and through faith in Christ the Holy Spirit lives in our bodies which are temples to the Lord.

#### **Saturday (August 5) – 1 Kings 7**

The temple took seven years to build whereas Solomon's palace took thirteen years. Solomon also hired Hiram from Tyre (a different Hiram from 1 Kings 5) to design and build the temple furnishings. The temple and its furnishings were ornate and beautiful. It was to be a picture of the beauty of heaven and eternal life with God. It is God-pleasing to have beauty in our worship when done to the glory of Christ and to point to the beauty of heaven.

#### **Sunday (August 6) – 1 Kings 8**

Solomon dedicates the temple and the glory of God fills it to show that God will dwell in the temple. In Solomon's prayer he recognizes that no building can contain God but God has chosen to dwell in this temple according to His good and gracious presence. In Solomon's prayer he teaches the people that whenever they sin they are to come to the temple or pray towards the temple and God who is in heaven will forgive. In the Gospels Jesus says that His body is the new temple. Whenever we sin, we turn our faces to Christ in prayer asking for His forgiveness which He promises to freely give us through His Word and Sacraments.