



my grandma time

...doing simple things together!

Week 26, Day 1 --- 2 Chronicles 13-16 - 1 Kings 15:1-24

Week 26, Day 2 --- 1 Kings 15:25-16:34 - 2 Chronicles 17

Week 26, Day 3 --- 1 Kings 17-19

Week 26, Day 4 --- 1 Kings 20-21

Week 26, Day 5 --- 2 Chronicles 18 - 1 Kings 22

Week 26, Day 6 --- 2 Chronicles 19-23

Week 26, Day 7 --- Obadiah 1 - Psalm 82-83

Week 26, Day 1 --- 2 Chronicles 13-16 - 1 Kings 15:1-24

Asa was a good king. He was a much better than average king and he had a long reign. Unfortunately, he made the same mistake as many others. He relied on God and was blessed. This was not a mistake. However, after many years of being blessed he was threatened. In the past when he was threatened he trusted in God and God was faithful to rescue him. When Israel threatens him he turns to the king of Aram rather than God. It costs him far more than the money he gives the king. He loses God as an ally and protector. His reign ends in a whimper. God wants to be trusted. He is not pleased when we choose to trust in the people and things of this earth when we can completely trust Him.

Week 26, Day 2 --- 1 Kings 15:25-16:34 - 2 Chronicles 17

What a contrast. Which kingdom would you want to live in – Israel or Judah? I saw something in 2 Chronicles 17 that I hadn't seen before. A king of Judah actually sent priests and Levites out to teach the people the law of God. This is a rare thing and look at what happened as a result. The evil in Israel will continue, but out of this great evil will come two of the greatest prophets in the history of God's people.

Week 26, Day 3 --- 1 Kings 17-19

There is so much here it is hard to know where to begin. Elijah is the first of the great prophets and he speaks for God in the kingdom of Israel. Most of his time he spends alone. When he appears in public it is generally for a very dramatic confrontation. He feels isolated and after what appears to be a great victory he gets depressed. Why does he run away when God has just demonstrated His power in a very dramatic way? What do you learn about God from His interaction with Elijah?

Week 26, Day 4 --- 1 Kings 20-21

Ahab was a wicked man. In spite of this God protects the people of Israel and tries to win them back. He gives them victory over the Syrians, but instead of destroying the Syrians as they were instructed they make a treaty with them. Ahab is also very selfish, and his wife supports his selfishness with her evil. She murders a man so that Ahab can have a vegetable garden. As a result God promises to remove the kingdom from Ahab's family. Ahab does something unusual, he repents of his evil. God responds by extending Ahab's life.

Week 26, Day 5 --- 2 Chronicles 18 - 1 Kings 22

War was very personal at this time. It is obvious that the soldiers knew their enemy well enough that they could recognize him. It may have been the robes, but it also could have been that they Syrian soldiers would have recognized Ahab's face. The really important character here is Micaiah. He is a true prophet who desires nothing more than to obey God and deliver the message that God gives him. He speaks truth and it is rejected. The result is that Ahab dies. It is very dangerous to reject God's Word.

Week 26, Day 6 --- 2 Chronicles 19-23

God keeps His promises even when we do terrible things that would justify Him breaking them. This section begins with a good king and ends with a good king, but in between are some very evil kings. I do not understand why the oldest son of Jehoshaphat does not follow God. His father had been blessed and the land was at peace. Unfortunately, he rejects his father and God and does evil. How would you like to have the following statement on your tombstone: "And he departed with no one's regret." This passage also gives us some insight into why God often calls for the complete destruction of peoples or families. Ahab's daughter is as evil as her mother Jezebel. As queen she has a very destructive influence on all of Judah. There is something wrong in Ahab's family and it will not cure itself. They must be destroyed if either Israel or Judah are to have any chance of repenting and returning to God.

Week 26, Day 7 --- Obadiah 1 - Psalm 82-83

How would you respond if someone was physically threatening someone you love? Judah was under attack from Edom. Remember that Judah was descended from Jacob and that Edom was descended from Esau, both sons of Isaac. They are a part of the same family, yet Edom wanted to destroy Judah. In spite of God's disappointment with Judah, He will not allow another nation to totally destroy them. This will be a constant theme as you begin reading through the prophets. God is constantly sending warnings to repent or face His judgment.

The other thing that is very clear through the whole Bible is God's desire for His people to care for the weak and poor. Those of us who have been blessed by God are to use that blessing to bless others.