

WEEK 19 — SOLOMON'S REIGN BEGINS

Date: about 970-946 BC • sections containing overviews of David's reign include material from about 1010-970 BC • sections containing overviews of Solomon's reign include material from about 970-930 BC

The Story: God blesses Israel with a smooth transition of power from David to his son, Solomon. David and Solomon both respond with noble devotion to God: David as he calls his nation and young King Solomon to faith and arranges for the building of the temple and for the worship of God there; Solomon as he seeks a heart of wisdom over riches, victory, or long life, so that he may lead God's people well. This week's readings include more psalms written by the Sons of Korah and introduce a collection of psalms written by Asaph (or his descendants). It also brings us a psalm composed by David for the dedication of the temple.

* Kids' readings may not align with the daily full readings. Parents, see the content ratings on the back page.

MAY 8 PSALMS 87-88 • PSALM 50 • PSALM 73 • PSALMS 75-76

Today's reading closes our exploration of the psalms by the Sons of Korah, then opens another collection: the psalms of Asaph. Asaph and his descendants were among the Levites David appointed to lead Israel's worship at God's temple (1 Chronicles 16:4-6, 25:1-8). Especially notable in this reading is Psalm 73, in which the writer struggles with the question of whether it is worthwhile to remain devoted to God while the wicked prosper. Watch for the psalm's turning point in verses 16-17; when the writer encounters God, his perspective broadens, and near the end he writes, "it is good to be near God" (verse 28).

Date: about 970 BC or later

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Psalms 87-88 • Psalm 73 • Psalms 75-76

Kids' Reading*: Psalm 87 • Psalms 75-76

MAY 9 PSALMS 77-78 • PSALM 81

Today's reading continues our journey through the psalms of Asaph. Psalm 77 calls on God to display his greatness through mercy. Psalm 78 contrasts God's faithfulness with Israel's unfaithfulness during the exodus, teaching Israel to trust in God. Psalm 81 uses a similar technique, calling Israel to listen to God and follow him so that he might bless them.

Date: about 970 BC or later

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Psalm 78 • Psalm 81

Kids' Reading*: Psalm 77 • Psalms 81-82

MAY 10 PSALMS 82-83 • 1 CHRONICLES 26-27

Today's reading concludes the psalms of Asaph with a warning for Israel to pursue justice and with a prayer for God to defeat Israel's enemies. Our readings then move back into the story of David, with lists of various temple and administrative officials during David's reign. The theological impact of 1 Chronicles 26-27 is subtle: Israel's God is a God of order, and he has blessed Israel with an orderly government—a sign of his love for his people. To Israel, these lists of officials were reminders of God's blessings in David's time.

Date: about 970 BC or later (Psalms 82-83) • probably prior to and during about 970 BC (1 Chronicles 26) • 1 Chronicles 27 includes material drawn from throughout David's reign, about 1010-970 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Psalms 82-83 • 1 Chronicles 27

Kids' Reading*: Psalm 30 • 1 Chronicles 28

MAY 11 PSALM 30 • 1 CHRONICLES 28-29

Today's reading again starts with a psalm, this time featuring a psalm David wrote for the dedication of the future temple. 1 Chronicles 28-29 follows that psalm thematically as David, shortly before he dies, gives instructions for the construction of the temple. His life ends in worship to God and in passing the throne of Israel along to Solomon his son.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS — Summit View Church of Christ

Date: probably just prior to or during about 970 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Psalm 30 • 1 Chronicles 28-29

Kids' Reading*: 1 Chronicles 29

MAY 12 1 KINGS 2-4

Today's reading provides a different angle on David's last acts before his death: he charges Solomon to obey the Lord and instructs him in how to deal with a few troublemakers. After David dies, Solomon does deal with them, thereby establishing himself as a just king, but also one fully empowered to reign. Then 1 Kings tells about Solomon's devotion to God, his wisdom, and key people in his administration.

Date: probably about 970-966 BC (1 Kings 2-3) • 1 Kings 4 contains material drawn from throughout Solomon's reign (about 970-930 BC)

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: 1 Kings 2-3

Kids' Reading*: 1 Kings 3 • 1 Kings 4:29-34

MAY 13 2 CHRONICLES 1 • 1 KINGS 5-6

Today's reading repeats in 2 Chronicles some of the Kings material about Solomon's wisdom (from 1 Kings 3) and prosperity (coming in 1 Kings 10). Chronicles was written roughly a century after Kings and often draws from Kings word-for-word; but it also adds its own unique information, as well. Returning to 1 Kings, we read about Solomon's construction of the temple. After all David's preparations, it is at last being built.

Date: about 970-959 BC (Solomon's building of the temple in 1 Kings 6 covers about April 966 to October 959 BC) • 2 Chronicles 1:14-17 contains material drawn from throughout Solomon's reign (about 970-930 BC)

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: 1 Kings 5-6

Kids' Reading*: 2 Chronicles 2-3

MAY 14 2 CHRONICLES 2-3 • 1 KINGS 7

Today's reading again shares the story of Solomon's construction of the temple; as always in Chronicles, watch closely for any information not provided in the Kings account. 1 Kings 7 tells about Solomon's other grand construction project, his palace, and gives a detailed account of the production of the various furnishings for the new temple (notice the similarity to the account of the production of the tabernacle's furnishings in Exodus 37-38, after which this section is modeled).

Date: about 970-946 BC • Solomon's building, furnishing, and dedication of the temple in 1 Kings 6-8 covers about April 966 to October 959 BC • Solomon's palace was completed in about 946 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: 1 Kings 7

Kids' Reading*: 1 Kings 7:1-40

Parents' Guide

PG preview for young children

Ps 50:13 (T), 18 (S), 22 (V)

Ps 73:27 (T)

Ps 78:31 (V), 34 (V), 44-51 (T, V)

Ps 83:9-10 (T, V)

Ps 88:3-18 (T)

1K 2:5-6 (V), 9 (V), 24-25 (V), 29-34

(V), 46 (V)

1K 3:16 (S), 19-23 (T)

PG-13 preview for under age 13

Ps 78:51 (V), 62-64 (V)

1K 3:24-27 (T, V)

R shocking, graphic, or disturbing

none

C = Circumcision

N = Nudity

S = Sexuality

T = Dark/Sensitive Themes

V = Violence