

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR MAY 19

### MONDAY

- Read Psalms 111-118
- These are psalms of praise to God. Psalms 113-118 are known as the *Hallel* (“Praise”) in Judaism and even today are recited by devout Jews during times of special celebration.
- This section of the psalms was recited at Passover during the time of Jesus and was sung by Jesus and His disciples on the night before the crucifixion (cf. Matthew 26:30; Mark 14:26).
- Identify the verses in Psalm 118 that would have been especially meaningful to Jesus on the night of the Last Supper.

### TUESDAY

- Read I Kings 1-2; Psalms 37; 71; 94
- The key to I Kings 1-2 is the last sentence in the final verse of chapter 2: “The kingdom was established in Solomon’s hand.”
- Here David, under the prompting of Nathan the prophet and Bathsheba, subverted a plot by Solomon’s older brother, Adonijah, to become king in David’s place.
- In David’s dying instructions to Solomon, he instructed his son to follow the Lord faithfully and to take revenge on David’s enemies, which was a key step in firmly establishing Solomon’s reign.
- As you read the psalms today, reflect on God’s judgment on the wicked and His faithfulness to the righteous, though sometimes flawed, person even through old age.

### WEDNESDAY

- Read Psalm 119:1-88
- Psalm 119 celebrates God’s Word, expressed variously as His law, His commands, and His precepts.
- Notice all the benefits the psalmist spoke of in relation to God’s amazing Word.
- Identify the benefits of God’s Word that mean the most to you now.
- Thank God for the blessings given by His Word.

### THURSDAY

- Read I Kings 3-4; 2 Chronicles 1; Psalm 72
- In the two narrative books today we read about the wonderful beginning of King Solomon’s reign.
- As I Kings 3-4 develops, we first see an example of Solomon’s wisdom, then examples of his organizational ability, his great wealth, and even his literary skills.
- Psalm 72, labeled as Solomonic, offers a prayer for the king. Notice that the psalm ends with a prayer that God’s glory would abound as the result of the king’s rule and life.

- How might you pray for a leader of your church, your government, or the like in ways that parallel the words in the psalm?

#### **FRIDAY**

- Read Psalm 119:89-176
- Today we read the rest of Psalm 119.
- As you read, notice how connected God's Word is to God's character. The psalmist trusted in God's Word because he trusted God.
- In what areas of your life do you need to draw on God's Word and trust God?
- Also note that the psalmist said he would do certain things to interact with or respond to God's Word.
- How do you need to respond to the Word today?

#### **SATURDAY**

- Read Song of Solomon 1:1-5:1
- This book of the Bible presents us with an extended love poem, containing several episodes and primarily in three voices: the young man, the young woman, and the friends of the young woman.
- This book celebrates the appropriate love between a man and his wife. It parallels and enhances other portions of Scripture which portray God's plan for marriage.
- Hebrews 13:4 captures the heart of this song. Take a moment to review this verse.