

Bible Reading 2021

Chart the Course

Old Testament Week of May 30, 2021

We have come to the period of time known as the Kingdom Years of Israel. 1-2 Kings records the history of Israel, starting with Soloman, followed by the division of the northern and southern kingdoms. The northern kingdom is called "Israel" and its capital is Samaria. The southern kingdom is called "Judah" and its capital city is Jerusalem. The northern kingdom is ruled by a succession of 19 kings over a period of about 200 years, beginning with Jeroboam just after Solomon's time. The southern kingdom begins with Solomon's son, Rehoboam and lasts some 350 years, also consisting of 19 different kings. About half are good kings. All of the kings of the northern kingdom were considered evil kings. The northern kingdom is taken into exile by Assyria in 2 Kings 17. The southern kingdom goes into exile to Babylon in 2 Kings 25. The primary sins of both kingdoms was blatant disobedience to God and idolatry. 1 Kings begins with the death of David and the succession of Israel to Solomon. God uses Solomon to establish the kingdom in peace, to build the temple to fortify Jerusalem, and to centralize worship for all Israel in the temple at Jerusalem. His death sets the stage for the divided kingdom years.

Monday, May 31: Read 1 Kings 1-3

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Monday: Pray for yourself:

My relationship with God

My life roles and responsibilities

My personal needs/weak areas

My goals and objectives for 2021

*Chapter highlights:
*A key passage for me:
*One point of application from today's reading:

Wednesday, June 2: Read 1 Kings 7-9

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Tuesday, June 1: Read 1 Kings 4-6

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Wednesday: Pray for Bethel Gilead Community Church

- <u>Leadership:</u> Pray for God's grace and guidance in Pastor Jim and Pastor David's
 ministries and families. Pray for Linda Penn in her work at BGCC. Pray for the church
 council and the various ministry team leaders. Ask the Lord of the harvest to raise up more
 workers for the harvest (<u>Matthew 9:38</u>)
- 2. <u>Worship:</u> Ask God to strengthen our devotion to Him, in prayer, praise and thanksgiving. Pray for more musicians to help lead the church in worship, including a pianist. Pray for the development of a youth praise team.
- 3. <u>Fellowship:</u> Ask God to deepen our love and commitment to one another as a family of believers. Pray that we incorporate newcomers into our church fellowship. Take some time to pray through this past Sunday's congregational prayer requests.
- 4. <u>Discipleship:</u> Ask God to develop the faith, dedication, and leadership of our people. Pray for the children and youth ministries at BGCC. Ask God to bless our small group ministry, to raise up new groups, new teachers and more leaders.

- 1. <u>Outreach:</u> Pray that God will use Bethel Gilead to make a positive impact on our community so that many would come to Christ. Ask God to embolden our people to intentionally reach out to others through the Kingdom Assignment "Dare to Care".
- Future Faith Goals: Ask God to give our congregation a united vision for the future.
 Pray for God's clear leading in our future plans as we call our members to a greater love
 and commitment to the Lord and his service. Ask God to bless our finances so that we can
 better accomplish his purposes for our congregation.

Thursday, June 3: Read 1 Kings 10-12

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Thursday: Pray for "My World"

(Write down names as God brings people to mind.)

- Neighbors People who live around me.
- <u>People at Work</u> Others God brings into my life. Take note of specific needs around you and ask God what he wants you to do to help. Who can you invite to church?
- <u>Community</u> -- Ask God to bring revival and a spiritual awakening to Branch County, even through the Coronavirus crisis.
- <u>Pray for the area churches</u> and a greater spirit of unity and cooperation, especially as churches reunite after the quarantine.
- Pray for the community parachurch ministries serving our county, including
 Beginnings Care for Life Center, Branch County Right to Life, Joppa Recovery/
 Celebrate Recovery, Coach Eby Center, Family Promise, Forgotten Man Ministries,
 Freedom Recovery Center, God's Choice Church, Jacob's Well Ministry,
 Presbyterian Free Health Clinic, Shelterhouse, Tommy's House, the Gideons and
 the Bronson Food Pantry.
- <u>America:</u> Continue to pray for the nation, our national leaders and a revival in America. Pray that God would use the Coronavirus outbreak to lead people to faith in Jesus Christ. Pray for God's guidance and protection for our nation in the

