

Discipleship University Bible Reading Guide

Middle Old Testament History: 1 Sam. 23-27, Selected Psalms

The next reading guide will be available on June 18

1 Samuel 23-24 and Psalms 11, 54, 31, 63, 142, 18: The Character Training of David

1. What city did David and his band of 600 men deliver from the Philistines? _____. Who had the priestly ephod and with David inquired of the LORD whether stay in the city? _____
2. Who visited and encouraged David when hiding in the wilderness of Ziph? _____. Instead of becoming king, what position did Jonathan plan to have? _____
3. What creature and circumstance did David liken himself to in Psalm 11? _____
4. Which two verses in Ps. 11 show that sometimes there is nothing that God's people can do to halt the tide of evil except to trust that God sees it all and is in charge? _____.
5. Who reported to Saul of David's hiding place in the woods on the hill of Hachilah? _____
6. How does Psalm 54 fit the above situation? _____
7. In 1 Sam. 23:25-26, how close was Saul to capturing David and his men? _____
8. What forced Saul to stop pursuing David? _____. How does Psalm 31 explain why that happened? _____
9. At the beginning of 1 Sam. 24, Saul entered the cave where David's men were hiding. Is there a verse in Psalm 63 that fits this situation? Explain. _____
10. What is the theme of Psalm 63? _____
11. Why didn't David's men kill Saul? _____. Why did Saul weep after he saw the remnant of his robe in David's hand and heard David's speech? _____
12. How does Psalm 142 reveal the stress David felt in being a fugitive? _____
13. In David's praise of God for deliverance in Psalm 18, what imagery did you find in the first 14 verses?

14. What verses impressed you in the 2nd half of Ps. 18? _____

1 Samuel 25-27 and Psalms 120-121, 141, 16, 7, 13, 42-43, 84: Worn Out Being a Fugitive

1. Even though David couldn't go to Samuel's burial, he felt the loss keenly. He wrote Psalms 120 and 121 knowing that Saul would pursue him all the more. How does Psalm 120 show David's feelings? _____
_____. What is the key point of Psalm 121? _____. How do these two psalms help you personally? _____
2. Why was it such a grievous thing that Nabal wouldn't share provisions with David's men? _____
3. Who was David acting like in 1 Sam. 25:13? _____. If you were David, what did Abigail say that would have been most convincing for not taking vengeance on Nabal's household? _____
_____. How does David show his appreciation for Abigail's wisdom? _____
4. What verse from Psalm 141 describes well what Abigail did for David? _____. What verse best describes the outcome for Nabal and David both? _____. What other gem did you see in Psalm 141? _____
5. What three women are noted at the end of 1 Sam, 25 and why? _____
_____.
6. When Saul and all his men were sound asleep, who asked for permission from David to spear Saul to the ground? _____. Why was there no watch awake in Saul's camp? _____
7. What was the proof to Saul and Abner that David could have killed Saul but chose not to do so? _____
_____. How does Psalm 16:8 fit the dialogue between David and Abishai while standing next to the sleeping Saul? _____

8. How does Psalm 16:9 fit the outcome of the morning conversation with Saul? _____
9. What is the prophecy of Psalm 16:10? _____
10. Why did David go to Gath and put himself and all his men under the protection of Achish? Was this God's leading or was this due to loss of faith? _____. What city was given to David? _____
11. What big lie did David tell Achish, and what was the truth? _____. Why did David lie? _____
12. What evidence do you find in Psalm 7 indicating that it was written during the years when David was a fugitive? _____
13. What does Psalm 13 reveal about the depth of David's feelings during this time? _____
14. How is Psalm 42 similar to Psalm 13? _____
15. How is trust in God shown in Psalm 42 and 43? _____
16. In Psalm 43 what does David look forward to doing? _____
17. In Psalm 84 what does David lack compared to the sparrow or the swallow? _____
18. What hope do you find in the final verses of Psalm 84? _____

*****Suggested Reading, PP, chapter 65** (pages 660-674)

Psalms 6, 17, 25-26, 91-94, 99, 102-104, 109, 112, 123, 129, 139-140, 143: Variety of Psalms

These Psalms are not connected to any particular known event in David's life. Any of them could have been written while he was a fugitive.

Matching I: Match the Psalm from the box on the right with the correct description on the left by writing the Psalm # on the line. Each answer may be used once or not at all.

1. _____ Popular Psalm of Help in time of trouble.
2. _____ Royal Psalm describing God's majesty, holiness, and eternal nature.
3. _____ A Psalm of penitence, brokenness in sorrow, contemplating death, and weeping.
4. _____ The history of answering prayers is reason to exalt/praise the one who sits between cherubim.
5. _____ God will guide the meek and teach him His ways, His path; I lift up my soul to Him!
6. _____ Sing praises to the LORD, be glad and triumph in the works of His hands (creation).
7. _____ The wicked seem to triumph while God does nothing, but God will correct it all.

Psalm 6
Psalm 17
Psalm 25
Psalm 26
Psalm 91
Psalm 92
Psalm 93
Psalm 94
Psalm 99

Matching II: Match the Psalm from the box on the right with the correct description on the left by writing the Psalm # on the line. Each answer may be used once or not at all.

1. _____ God knows our thoughts and everything about us even from the womb and is wherever we go. He can search our hearts and show us any wickedness in us.
2. _____ Praise for God's mercy and compassion in forgiving our sins and helping us.
3. _____ Warning for those who betray love (Saul?) that disaster comes on them (applied to Judas in Acts 1:16-25. Verse 20 quotes from this Psalm).
4. _____ A prayer for deliverance, God's loving presence every morning, understanding of how to walk in God's ways, and to do His will.
5. _____ Praise the LORD for His blessing upon those who follow Him. They shall be mighty, full of wealth, generosity, compassion, and light, and will have discretion and not be afraid.
6. _____ Praises to God as the almighty infinite Creator. This Psalm gives much detail of God's creation.
7. _____ David is starving, he's as withering grass, like the worn out earth, but the God will change it all.

Psalm 102
Psalm 103
Psalm 104
Psalm 109
Psalm 112
Psalm 123
Psalm 129
Psalm 139
Psalm 140
Psalm 143