



**OLD TESTAMENT
BIBLE STUDY**

HISTORICAL

by Jim McCracken & Rich Kao



*Five Stones Church
Bible Literacy Initiative*

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Joshua

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JOSHUA 1-12

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. What was God's relationship (promise) to Joshua? (Chapter 1)
2. What kind of reputation did Israel have in Jericho? (Chapter 2)
3. What did Rahab think about the God of Israel? (Chapter 2)
4. How did Israel cross the Jordan and what did they leave for a memorial? (Chapter 3-4)
5. What does Gilgal mean and why was it named such? (Chapter 5)
6. Why did Israel lose the Battle of Ai, and what did Joshua think about God at the time? (Chapter 7)
7. After Israel's cleansing and repentance, how were they able to capture Ai? (Chapter 8)
8. Why did Israel not perceive the Gibeonites' trickery? (Chapter 9)
9. How did most of the enemy soldiers die when Israel defeated the Amorites? (Chapter 10)
10. Why did Joshua want the sun to stand still? (Chapter 10)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What does Rahab the harlot's actions show us about faith? (Hebrews 11:31, Chapter 2)
2. What does the story of Rahab the harlot show us about righteousness? (James 2:25-26, Chapter 2)
3. What might the scarlet cord for Rahab's window represent? (Chapter 2)
4. What does the crossing of the Jordan represent in the Christian's life? Volumes could be written about this, so keep your answer short and to the point? (Chapter 3)
5. Why did the manna stop the day after they ate some produce from the land of Canaan? (Chapter 5)
6. Who did Joshua meet before taking Jericho and what might this represent in our lives? (Chapter 5)
7. There is much symbolism in the Jericho victory. What do all the sevens mean? (7 priests, 7 trumpets, 7 days, 7 trips on the 7th day...) (Chapter 6)
8. What was the worst part of Achan's sin? (Chapter 7)
9. What can we learn from the defeat of the Amorites? (Chapter 10)
10. How can we explain the killing and mercilessness that God caused Israel to partake in? (Joshua 11:20)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

CONSIDERATION CORNER

Consider this:

Joshua commanded the sun to stand still. We do not always need understanding to operate in faith, because everyone now knows that it's the earth that moves, not the sun!

ANSWERS TO LESSON 17

OBSERVATIONS

1. God promised Joshua that He would be with him as He was with Moses. (1:5)
2. The people of Jericho were afraid because they had heard about the victories God had given Israel. (2:9)
3. She believed the God of Israel was indeed God of heaven and earth. (2:11)
4. The Lord spoke to Joshua and told him to have the priests cross with the ark. The water stopped and everyone followed on dry ground (3:17) On the other side, they left an altar with 12 stones for a memorial (4:5-7)
5. Gilgal means "roll" and it was named that because the Lord "rolled away" the reproach of Egypt at the place. (5:9)
6. Because of the disobedience of Achan, Joshua thought God had abandoned them (7:6-12)
7. God gave them a wise plan which they followed. (8:10-29)
8. They did not inquire of the Lord. They only looked on the outward signs. (9:14)
9. By hailstones thrown on them by God. (10:11)
10. So he could finish defeating the enemy. (10:12-14)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Faith does not depend on our sins or righteousness, but on our heart toward God. (2)
2. Righteousness is our faith put into action. (2)
3. The scarlet cord was a symbol similar to the blood on the doorpost at Passover for Israel. It could represent the blood of Christ. The warriors passed by the house without killing the people inside. (2:17-21)
4. Crossing the Jordan represents the Christian laying hold of that which is his in Christ This is done in faith by following the Lord's leading in one's life not self-effort. They did not swim the Jordan, they walked on dry ground. (3)
5. The manna was provided miraculously in the desert where there was no food, but once they had natural food, the miracle was no longer needed. (5:11-12)
6. He met the commander of the Lord's army (Jesus). We need to meet with the Lord personally to gain a victory. (5:13-15)
7. The number seven is the number of completion. God completes things in sevens in the Bible. He wanted Joshua and Israel to know that the Jericho victory was totally his doing. (6)
8. His disobedience to God and trying to hide it. (7)
9. When God has calls us He works for us miraculously when our own strength runs out. (10:9-14)
10. Just as in the case of Pharaoh, God saw that these nations were not choosing Him and honoring Him as God, so He hardened their hearts and used them as vessels of dishonor.

JOSHUA 13-24

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. What kind of testimony did Caleb have after the forty years in the wilderness? (Chapter 14)
2. How did Ephraim and Manasseh lack in faith compared to Joshua? (Chapters 16-17)
3. Why did the rest of the Israelites almost go to war against the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh? (Chapter 22)
4. What was the inscription that the Reubenites and Gadites put on the altar that they built? (Chapter 22)
5. In Joshua's final exhortation, what did he say was the reason that Israel was able to rout the enemy? (Chapter 23)
6. What does Joshua say will happen if Israel intermarries or associates with those foreigners that still live among them? (Chapter 23)
7. What does Joshua say about God's promises? (Chapter 23)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What might be the purpose of the many chapters in Joshua which record the actual allotment of land to the tribes of Israel? (Chapters 13-22)
2. Caleb had a valuable inheritance in Canaan and was generous to his daughter and gave her prized land with springs of water. What was Caleb's attitude toward the land he possessed? (Chapter 25)
3. Some of the tribes possessed their land right away, but the last seven had to be prodded by Joshua. (verses 1-10) What type of Christians do these two groups represent? (Chapter 18)
4. Why were there cities of refuge for killers guilty by accident? (Chapter 20)
5. The Levites were given cities of refuge. What does this tell us? (Chapter 21)
6. There are many lessons that can be learned from Joshua 22. What does it tell you about unity and communication? (Chapter 21)
7. What did Joshua teach the people about commitment to the Lord in Chapter 24?

03

CONSIDERATION CORNER

Consider this:

We sometimes wonder why much space is taken up in the Bible with such things as descriptions of borders of different countries and tribal lands. However, look at what the major disputing is about concerning the Middle East Peace Treaties – land and borders!

ANSWERS TO LESSON 18

OBSERVATIONS

1. Caleb was the only one, besides Joshua who lived through the 40 years in the wilderness. He was just as strong and vigorous as before the wilderness experience!(14:10-11)
2. They did not think they could drive out the Canaanites, but Joshua said they could. (17:12,17-18)
3. Because the Reubenites and Gadites built an altar of their own. (22:15-18)
4. "A witness between us that the Lord is God." (22:34)
5. Because the Lord their God fought for them. (23:9-11)
6. They would become snares and traps, whips on their backs and thorns in their eyes! (23:12-13)
7. Every promise was fulfilled, not one failed. (23:14)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. This record of allotment shows God's faithfulness. Israel inherited the land as God said they would. It also shows that God has a specific inheritance for each individual family. (13-22)
2. He held his earthly inheritance lightly because he was a man of faith. (15:18-19)
3. Christians who know the promises in Christ from the start, and Christians who need the prodding of others to enter into God's promises. (18:1-10)
4. God is merciful and full of grace and doesn't want His people to suffer for human error. (20)
5. The Levites who were the Lord's ministers, became elders of the cities of refuge and had to judge the cases brought there. The Lord gives some people the calling to judge situations wisely. (21)
6. Communication is essential to keep unity. The rest of Israel misunderstood the purpose for the altar that the Reubenites, a n d Gadites built and they almost destroyed them because of it. (22)
7. He wanted the people to see that if they choose to serve the Lord, but then forsake the Lord for other gods, they would bring disaster on themselves. It would be better for them not to say they would serve the Lord if they didn't follow through with it. (24)

Judges

LESSON 19

Judges 1-10

LESSON 20

Judges 11-21

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. Who raised up the judges? (Chapter 2)
2. What was Israel's response to these judges? (Chapter 2)
3. What was Caleb's nephew's name? (Chapter 3)
4. Who did the Lord originally plan to receive honor for the victory over Sisera? Who actually received the honor? Why? (Chapter 4)
5. Who was Gideon? What qualifications did he have to lead and deliver Israel? (Chapter 6)
6. What was the answer that Gideon's father gave to the men who came to kill Gideon after he tore down the altars of Baal? (Chapter 6)
7. How many men did Gideon start with? How many did he use? (Chapter 7)
8. What did Gideon do that caused Israel to sin? (Chapter 8)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Who went first to fight against the Canaanites? What do you think this signifies? (Chapter 1)
2. How long did Israel follow the Lord after they entered the Promised Land? (Chapter 2)
3. What can we learn concerning our battle with the devil from the account of Ehud killing Eglon? (Chapter 3)
4. Deborah and Barak sang a song recounting the story of victory. What is the purpose of the song and what can we learn from it? (Chapter 5)
5. How did Deborah become a judge? (Chapter 5)
6. When Gideon asked for a sign from the Lord what was God's response? (Chapter 6)
7. Abimelech seizes the kingdom by killing his 70 brothers. What does this chapter portray of God's justice? (Chapter 9)
8. Numerous times Israel strayed and worshipped idols until God let enemies defeat them. Then Israel would repent and God would deliver and prosper them until it happened again. What can we learn from this about human nature and God's character? (Chapter 10)

03

CONSIDERATION CORNER

Consider this:

Gideon was fearful. The Lord, not less than four times, did signs and wonders to give him confidence. God will help us with our weaknesses if we truly have a heart to do His will.

ANSWERS TO LESSON 19

OBSERVATIONS

1. The Lord did (2:16)
2. They did not listen to them and went after other gods. (2:17)
3. Othniel, who God raised up to deliver Israel, and as judge, the land had rest for 40 years. (3 : 7 - 11)
4. God planned for Barak to receive the honor, but Deborah and later Jael received it because Barak was hesitant and would not lead alone. (4:9, 21-22)
5. Gideon was unqualified in the natural. His family was the least in Manasseh and he was the youngest in his family. However, God saw a spiritual ability.
6. If Baal really is a god, he can defend himself when someone breaks down his altar. (6:31)
7. The Lord reduced the 32,000 men to 300. (7:1-8)
8. He made a golden ephod and Israel worshipped it as an idol. (8:22-27)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Judah, which means praise. Before we battle the enemy, we must praise and worship God. (1:1-2)
2. All the days of Joshua and all the days of the elders who survived Joshua. (2:8-10)
3. In spiritual battle or deliverance, the double-edged sword of God's word is needed to deal with the the enemy. When that is done, other problems will fall like dominos. (3:12-30)
4. They gave glory to God by recounting the victory, and it builds faith when we remember what God has done by giving testimony. (5)
5. She rose up in faith when Israel was controlled by the enemy. (5:7-12)
6. Gideon already had the word of the Lord so he is actually saying, "If you're really going to do what you already said you would, give me a sign." God had grace anyway and did what Gideon asked. (6:36-40)
7. God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and his people, and they destroyed each other. God is always just. Many times He will use men, even evil men, as his tools for purging evil. (9)
8. People will always go astray if they follow their flesh. God will always be merciful, loving, and forgiving. (10)

JUDGES 11-21

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. Who was Jephthah and why was he an outcast? (Chapter 11)
2. What was Jephthah's vow to the Lord? (Chapter 11)
3. When the men of Gilead fought against Ephraim, how did they distinguish between friend and foe? (Chapter 12)
4. What was Samson's riddle and what was the answer? (Chapter 14)
5. What happened when Samson became thirsty? (Chapter 15)
6. When Samson was locked inside the city of Gaza, how did he escape? (Chapter 16)
7. How did Samson die? (Chapter 16)
8. What did the Levite do after the wicked men raped and murdered his concubine? Why? (Chapter 19)
9. What was Israel's attitude when the Benjamites were defeated and destroyed? (Chapters 20 & 21)
10. How many men remained alive in the tribe of Benjamin? (Chapters 20 & 21)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. How did Jephthah fulfill his vow to God? (Chapter 11)
2. Do you believe the angel was actually Jesus? (Chapter 13)
3. Samson desires to marry a Philistine woman. How was this from the Lord? (Chapter 14)
4. What were some of the ways Samson gained vengeance on the Philistines? (Chapters 14 - 16)
5. Why did Samson ever tell the real key to his strength? (Chapter 16)
6. What was the secret of his strength? Why? (Chapter 16)
7. What does the narrative in Chapters 17 and 18 show of the spiritual conditions in those days? What seems to be the attitude toward the Lord and toward idols? (Chapters 17 & 18)
8. Can you think of any reasons why the battle went the way it did? (Chapter 20)
9. What two things did Israel do so that the remaining Benjamites could have wives? (Chapter 21)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

Samson lost his **insight** before he lost his **eyesight!**

ANSWERS TO LESSON 20

OBSERVATIONS

1. He was a mighty warrior, the son of Gilead and a prostitute. His brothers drove him away because they didn't want him to get at inheritance, for he was the son of another woman. (11:1-2)
 2. "If you give the Amorites into my hands, whatever comes out of the door of my house...will be the Lord's; and I will sacrifice it as a burnt offering." (11:31)
 3. They would have each man say "Shibboleth" and if he could not pronounce it, they knew he was an Ephraimite. (12:5-6)
 4. The riddle: "Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the strong, something sweet" The answer: "What is sweeter than honey? What is stronger than a lion?" (14:14,18)
 5. God caused a spring to come forth out of a hollow place. (15:18-19)
 6. In the middle of the night, he took hold of the city gate and the two posts and tore them loose. Then he carried them on his shoulders to the top of a hill. (16:1-3)
 7. He pushed out the two central pillars of the Philistine temple and the building collapsed. He died along with 3,000 Philistines. (16:27-30)
 8. He cut her up in pieces and sent a piece to each of the tribes. He did this to incite the tribes to purge these evil men from them. (19:29-30)
 9. They mourned and wept bitterly. (21:2-3)
 10. 600 men. (20:47)
2. Yes, and the primary clue is that the angel would not reveal his name since it was "beyond understanding." The appearance of Christ in the Old Testament is called a Christophany and there are many of them. (13:18)
 3. The Lord was seeking an occasion to confront the Philistines. (14:4)
 4. He killed 30 men for their clothes. (14:19) He took 300 foxes, tied their tails with torches between them and let them loose in the standing grain. (15:4-5) He killed a thousand men with a donkey's jawbone. (15:15) He tore loose the city gate of Gaza and carried it away. (16:3) He collapsed the temple and killed 3,000 men. (16:30)
 5. He had become proud and dependent on his own strength, instead of the Lord's and he had a weakness for women. (16:1-22)
 6. His long hair. God granted him this great strength as long as he was obedient to his Nazirite calling. (16:17)
 7. The conditions were poor and confusing with a mixture of worshipping God or idols with no real conscience of it being wrong. "Everyone did what was right in his own eyes [as he saw fit]." (17:6) God knows the hearts of men individually but because of the wickedness that was rampant, he purged his own people. Also, God wants us to know the battle is not always the same.
 8. God knows the hearts of men individually but because of the wickedness that was rampant, he purged his own people. Also, God wants us to know the battle is not always the same.
 9. Because of the vow, none of the tribes could give wives to the Benjamites, so they kept 400 virgins alive when they executed judgment on Jabesh Gilead The rest of the women were stolen at the festival in Shiloh. (21:6-23)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. It is not stated directly; however, it is implied that he did not kill his daughter but he never allowed her to marry. (11:36-40)

LESSON 21 ***Ruth***

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. What reason did Elimelech have for taking his wife, and two sons from Judah? Where did they go? (Chapter 1)
2. What did Naomi's daughters-in-law decide about returning to Judah after their husbands' deaths? (Chapter 1)
3. Who was the owner of the field where Ruth gleaned after the barley harvesters? (Chapter 2)
4. What "extra" kindnesses did the owner show Ruth during the first day they met? (Chapter 2)
5. Where were the local government and business matters settled in the days of Ruth? (Chapter 4)
6. What was the sign of legalizing the transaction made between Boaz and his relative? (Chapter 4)
7. Why didn't the nearer relative want to redeem Naomi's estate? (Chapter 4)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What do the names Naomi and Mara mean and what is their significance? (Chapter 1)

2. How did the Israelite “gleaning” law help the two widows after their return to Bethlehem? (Chapter 2)

3. Explain Ruth’s act of obedience to Naomi’s instructions and the symbolism that this custom showed Boaz. (Chapter 3)

4. How does the book of Ruth picture our relationship with Christ? (Chapters 1 - 4)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

LESSON 21: RUTH

03

CONSIDERATION CORNER

Consider this:

Ruth was David's great-grandmother and Rahab the harlot from Jericho was David's great-great-grandmother. (Matthew 1:5) These facts show us that God's love reached out not only to Hebrews, but Gentiles too, as they yielded their lives to serve Him, and by doing so, God used them to accomplish His purposes. Later in the New Testament, Peter, said, "I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality." (Acts 10:34)

ANSWERS TO LESSON 21

OBSERVATIONS

1. There was a famine in Judah so they went to Moab. (1:1)
2. Orpah returned to her family in Moab but Ruth stayed with Naomi and went back to Judah. (1:14-18)
3. Boaz, a near-kinsman to Elimelech. (2:1-3)
4. He told her to glean in his fields through the harvests of barley and wheat; to drink the water drawn by his servants ; to eat along with the reapers; and he told his workers to drop extra bundles of grain for her to glean. (2:8-23)
5. The town gate. (4:1)
6. He removed his sandal and gave it to Boaz. (4:7-8)
7. He didn't want to jeopardize his own estate, spending money for land that wouldn't go to his own line. (4:5-6)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Naomi means pleasant, which is how her life was with her husband and sons. Mara, which means bitter, is how she felt after their deaths. (1:20)
2. By this law, God made provision for the poor and forbade the wealthy landowners to be greedy by going over their fields twice. (2)
3. She went to Boaz at the threshing floor, waited until he had finished eating and laid down. She then uncovered his feet and laid down at his feet. This showed Boaz that she was willing to be obedient to the law of her new people. She did not seek a younger husband for herself, but wanted him to redeem (cover) her. (3:1-13)
4. Ruth was a Moabite, not an Israelite, who were God's chosen. Boaz is a type of Christ who redeems us. Ruth's faithfulness to Naomi and her hard work in the fields, showed her character to Boaz. This reveals that our good works cause our faith to be complete. James 2:18-22

Samuel

LESSON 22	I Samuel 1-15
LESSON 23	I Samuel 16-31
LESSON 24	II Samuel 1-12
LESSON 25	II Samuel 13-25

I SAMUEL 1-15

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. Who were Elkanah's wives and what was the rivalry between them? (Chapter 1)
2. What does 'Samuel' mean? (Chapter 1)
3. What was the judgment put on Eli's household? (Chapter 2)
4. Were the people hearing God's word in Eli's day? (Chapter 3)
5. What does 'Ichabod' mean and what is the significance of it? (Chapter 4)
6. When the Philistines sent the ark back to Israel, what offering did they send with it? Why? (Chapter 6)
7. Why did seventy men of Beth Shemesh die? (Chapter 6)
8. What does 'Ebenezer' mean and why did Samuel give a stone that name? (Chapter 7)
9. God uses both practical and spiritual ways to accomplish His purposes. How did Saul happen to come to Samuel and how did Samuel know Saul was to be king? (Chapter 9)
10. What was the sign given to Saul of his kingship? (Chapter 10)
11. What did Saul look like and how did he act when he was singled out as king in front of the people? (Chapter 10)
12. How was Saul's kingship confirmed to the doubters? (Chapter 11)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What is Hannah extolling about God in her prayer? (Chapter 2)
2. Why did God want to do away with Eli's sons? What does this say about a person's calling? (Chapter 2)
3. What does it mean that the Lord let none of Samuel's words "fall to the ground?" (Chapter 3)
4. The ark of God was guidance and glory to Israel. What was its effect on the Philistines? Why? (Chapter 5)
5. Why was it an unusual sign when the cows, which the Philistines hitched to the ark went to Beth Shemesh? (Chapter 6)
6. Why was it bad for Israel to desire a king? (Chapter 8 & 12)
7. What did Samuel say about failing to pray for the people? (Chapter 12)
8. What principle is learned from Saul's actions in Gilgal? (Chapter 13)
9. How was Jonathan an example of faith to Israel? (Chapter 14)
10. Why was Saul's oath for the people not to eat, a foolish oath? (Chapter 14)
11. What can we learn from Saul's actions after beating the Amalekites? What do we learn of the character of God? (Chapter 15)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

Saul was a head taller than anyone else and yet his downfall came when he feared the people. Fear of man is surely a snare.

ANSWERS TO LESSON 22

OBSERVATIONS

1. Hannah and Peninnah. Hannah had no children, but Elkanah loved her very much, so Peninnah provoked Hannah for being barren. (1:1-8)
2. Heard of God. (1:20)
3. God said He would take away the strength of Eli's house The men would all die in their prime. His two sons would die on the same day. (2:30-34)
4. No. The word of the Lord was rare. (3:1)
5. Ichabod means "no glory". The Philistines had beaten Israel badly and stolen the Ark of the Covenant over which the glory of God rested and led the people. (4:21-22)
6. They offered five gold models of mice and five of tumors (one for each Philistine king) in hopes that God's hand of wrath would be lifted. (6:4-5)
7. Because they looked into the Ark. (6:19)
8. It means "stone of help" because when Israel repented, God helped them slaughter the Philistines. (7:12)
9. Saul was looking for his father's lost donkeys and God had spoken to Samuel that at a certain time, a Benjamite was coming whom he should anoint as king. (9:1-17)
10. Samuel said he would meet certain prophets and he would prophesy. God changed Saul's heart; and he indeed prophesied among the prophets. (10:1-14)
11. He was a head taller than anyone else, but he was hiding in the baggage. (10:20-24)
12. God used him to unite Israel and beat the Amorites. (11)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Hannah extols God's kindness, mercy and grace, especially toward the poor, needy and weak ones. (2:1-10)
2. Eli's sons had become corrupt priests, thinking only of themselves. A person must walk worthy of his calling or reap the consequences. (2:12-36)
3. Samuel walked with God so his words became meaningful and life-giving, which caused people to listen. (3:19-21)
4. It was death and sickness to the Philistines. Because God's hand was heavy upon it and they did not fear God. (5)
5. Because the cows had recently calved and would normally refuse to leave their calves. (6:7-12)
6. They did not have a relationship with God so He could lead them. They wanted a king "like other nations". They rejected God to have a man lead them. (8:4-9, 12:12)
7. He would not want to sin against the Lord by failing to pray for them. (12:23)
8. We must not be anxious and let others' fear or panic cause us to move in the flesh. (13:7-14)
9. Jonathan believed God would deliver the Philistines into their hand. He single-handedly set the Philistines into confusion and then the faint-hearted joined him and beat the Philistines. (14:1-23)
10. The oath made the soldiers weak, and it backfired when Jonathan unknowingly broke the oath. (14:24-45)
11. To hear God's word and obey is far better than sacrifice or the best of our own ideas. There is a point where God brings judgment on human arrogance and He does not change His mind. (15)

I SAMUEL 16-31

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. Why did David think he could kill Goliath when even the strongest men in Israel were afraid? (Chapter 17)
2. What feelings moved Saul to do foolish things? (Chapter 18)
3. What did Samuel, David, Saul and Saul's men all do at Naioth? At Ramah? Why? (Chapter 19)
4. Who helped David flee from Saul? Why? (Chapters 19 & 20)
5. What does David use for his sword after fleeing from Saul? (Chapter 21)
6. Why did David act like a madman when he was with King Achish? (Chapter 21)
7. Describe David's original army. (Chapter 22)
8. Why did Saul kill the priests at Nob? Were his actions justified? (Chapter 22)
9. How did David manage to keep away from Saul? (Chapters 22-26)
10. Why did David go to Ziklag? (Chapter 27)
11. Why did Saul resort to going to a witch? (Chapter 28)
12. The Philistine commanders did not want David and his men to march with them so they sent them back to Ziklag. How did God use this? (Chapters 29-30)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What lesson can we learn from Samuel about mourning over a sad situation? (Chapter 16)
2. David was only a shepherd and didn't compare to his brothers or Saul in stature. Why then, did God choose David? (Chapter 16)
3. What can we learn about anointed praise from David and Saul? (Chapter 16)
4. Can we learn something from the fact that David couldn't use Saul's armor but was successful with only a sling? (Chapter 17)
5. Why would God want to send an evil spirit upon Saul? (Chapter 18)
6. Compare 1 Samuel 21:6 with Mark 2:23-27. How did God look upon David's action?
7. Why did David not kill Saul when he had the chance? (Chapters 22-26)
8. What lesson can we learn from Abigail in Chapter 25?
9. Samuel, who was dead, said to Saul that the next day Saul would be with him. What does this show us of God's mercy? (Chapter 28)
10. What can we learn from the way that David divided the spoil of the Amalekites? (Chapter 30)
11. How did Saul meet his end and what does that tell us? (Chapter 31)

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

God could have waited to anoint David king after Saul was dead. However, He chose to give the people a visual contrast between David and Saul. Saul was a head taller than anyone in Israel, but his heart was not right. Little David had **a heart toward God.**

ANSWERS TO LESSON 23

OBSERVATIONS

1. He believed that God would overrule the circumstances and deliver him into his hands. (17:37)
2. Jealousy and fear. (18)
3. They all prophesied because the Spirit of the Lord was heavy upon them. (19:18-24)
4. His wife Michal, Saul's daughter, and his friend Jonathan, Saul's son. Because they loved him and could see that Saul had turned evil. (19:11-17, 20:1-4)
5. Goliath's old sword. (21:9)
6. Because of fear. He was afraid they might expose him because they knew who he was. (21:12-15)
7. All those who were in distress, or in debt, or discontented. (22:1-2)
8. He killed them out of fear that they were in allegiance with David. He was totally wrong because the priests had no knowledge of Saul's hatred for David. (22:6-23)
9. God always spoke to David and told him what to do. (22-26)
10. He looked for a place where Saul would not search, for him and king Achish gave him Ziklag. (27:1-6)
11. Because God no longer answered him. (28:6)
12. They got back to Ziklag in time to chase the enemy who had plundered the city. (30:1-8)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. When God works, even in sorrow, we need to stop mourning and embrace a new beginning. (16:1)
2. God looks on the heart, not the outward appearance. (16:5-13)
3. Evil cannot stay where there is anointed praise to God. (16:23)
4. We can't battle the enemy with someone else's gifts and anointing. (17:34-39)
5. Saul fluctuated between good and evil and God saw that his heart would not follow Him. God wanted Saul's reign to come to an end. (18:6-12)
6. It was ok for David to go against the letter of the law for God's higher purposes.
7. He believed Saul was God's anointed until he died, even though he wasn't righteous.
8. Blessed are the peacemakers. Abigail was a true picture of an intercessor. Nabal was selfish and died because of it. (25:14-35)
9. God was merciful to send Saul to where Samuel was after death, even though Saul had become disobedient. (28:19)
10. Our reward is the same, whether we go out or stay home, so we should be wherever God calls us. (30:23-25)
11. He died at the hands of the Philistines. When we cease to follow God, we are at the mercy of the enemy. (31)

II SAMUEL 1-12

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. How did Saul die? (Chapter 1)
2. What did David do when he heard the news of Saul's death? (Chapter 1)
3. Who was anointed king at the same time as David? (Chapter 2)
4. How did Abner die? (Chapter 3)
5. How old was David when he became king over all Israel? How long did he reign? (Chapter 5)
6. What city became the capital? (Chapter 5)
7. What characterized David's reign and how is that pictured by his kindness to Mephibosheth? (Chapter 8 & 9)
8. What did David do to try to conceal his sin? (Chapter 11)
9. What method did Nathan use to confront David? (Chapter 12)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. The accounts of Saul's death seem to differ. (I Samuel 31 & II Samuel 1) Why?
2. What was David's attitude toward Saul and his position as king? (Chapter 1)
3. What did David do when Rechab and Baanah told him that they killed Ish-Bosheth? Why? (Chapter 4)
4. What had David learned about God's guidance? (Chapter 5)
5. Why did Uzzah die? (Chapter 6)
6. Why did Michal have no children? (Chapter 6)
7. What was God's promise to David concerning building a temple? How did David respond to this? (Chapter 7)
8. In David's conflict with the Ammonites, was David taking the offensive or defensive position? (Chapter 10)
9. What does God want us to see about David's attempt to hide his sin? (Chapters 11 & 12)
10. There were three judgments to David spoken by Nathan the prophet. What were they? (Chapter 12)
11. When David's son died why did he respond the way he did? (Chapter 12)
12. What does this chapter show us about children dying? (Chapter 12)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

**CONSIDERATION
CORNER**

Consider this:

The ark of God was a symbol of God's manifest presence. David danced with all his might when the presence of God was returning home. Christians should do the same in the time of Christ's return with His presence coming into the camp!!

ANSWERS TO LESSON 24

OBSERVATIONS

1. He was fatally wounded in battle, so he purposely fell on his sword. His life still lingered in him, so he persuaded an Amalekite to kill him. (1:5-10)
2. He tore his clothes, fasted and mourned, and then killed the man who killed Saul. (1:11-16)
3. Ish-Bosheth, Saul's son. (2:10)
4. He was murdered by Joab. (3:27)
5. David was 30 and he reigned 40 years. (5:4)
6. Jerusalem, the City of David. (5:1-10)
7. He did what was just and right for all his people and the kindness he showed to Mephibosheth, the grandson of Saul, was a perfect example of this. (8:15, 9:3-13)
8. First, he attempted to make Uriah think the child was his own, then arranged circumstances so Uriah would be killed in battle. (11:6-17)
9. A parable. (12:1-10)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Each account tells a portion of the story from two different perspectives. (1:5-10)
2. He kept Saul's position in the highest esteem. (1:17-27)
3. He killed them because Ish-Bosheth was anointed as king and was an innocent man. David had no rivalry in his heart (4:9-12)

4. He learned not to assume that God's direction would be the same, though the situations were identical. Seek the Lord every time. (5:17-25)
5. He touched the ark. Because he was a priest, he was responsible to know that only the Levites could touch the ark and it must be carried on their shoulders. (6:6-7)
6. Because she despised David for his dancing. (6:16-23)
7. That Solomon would build it. David was very grateful and his heart was filled with praise, even though he would never see it. (7:5-29)
8. Defensive. When David's delegation was humiliated, David did not come out to fight until the Ammonites initiated the battle. (10:1-14)
9. It takes more sin to hide sin. David ended up in a worse place and was unable to conceal his sin anyway. (11:4-12:18)
10. The sword would never depart from his house, calamity would come to his household so that even his wives will be taken, and the child that is born to him will die. (12:10-14)
11. He had fasted and wept that perhaps God might spare the child. When the child died, he acknowledged God's justice, for there was nothing he could do. (12:15-23)
12. This baby went to be with the Lord. This is one of just a few Scriptures concerning what happens to children when they die. (12:23)

II SAMUEL 13-25

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. What greater evil did Amnon do after he raped his half-sister Tamar? (Chapter 13)
2. To where did Absalom flee after he killed Amnon? (Chapter 13)
3. When Joab ignored Absalom's request, what did Absalom do to get his attention? (Chapter 14)
4. Why did David send back Zadok, Abiathar, and Hushai? (Chapter 15)
5. Mephibosheth joins the conspiracy, but Ziba does not. What does David do about this? Does Ziba tell David the truth? (Chapter 16)
6. What were David's orders concerning Absalom? (Chapter 18)
7. Why was the victory in Chapter 18 treated like a defeat?
8. What judgment does Shimei receive when David returns? (Chapter 19)
9. How was Sheba's revolt stopped? (Chapter 20)
10. Why didn't David drink the water that the three men stole from the Philistine camps? (Chapter 23)
11. What was the total of the census? (Chapter 24)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. How did Joab convince David to bring back Absalom? (Chapter 14)
2. What kind of man was Absalom? Describe his character. (Chapters 14 & 15)
3. Absalom conspires and seizes the kingdom. When David flees, Shimei curses him. Why does David submit to Absalom & Shimei? Why doesn't he resist and fight? (Chapters 15 & 16)
4. Why did Ahithophel hang himself when he saw that his advice was not heeded? (Chapter 17)
5. Who killed Absalom? Why? (Chapter 18)
6. What was the difference between the two messengers Ahimaaz and the Cushite? What can we learn from this incident? (Chapter 18)
7. What did David do with his ten concubines when he returned? Why? (Chapter 20)
8. What do we learn from the three-year famine in the days of David and how it was stopped? What do we learn from David's song? (Chapters 21 & 22)
9. Why was it a sin for David to number the people? (Chapter 24)
10. Which of the three options of judgment did David choose? Why? (Chapter 24)

03

CONSIDERATION CORNER

Consider this:

In spite of Absalom's sinful ways, David loved him greatly. How much more does our Heavenly Father love us in spite of our sinfulness!

ANSWERS TO LESSON 25

OBSERVATIONS

1. He hated her and sent her away. (13:1-19)
2. Geshur, which was evidently a city of refuge. (13:38-39)
3. Absalom had his servants set Joab's field on fire. (14:30-31)
4. So that David would secretly have men on his side of the palace. (15:32-37)
5. He gave everything to Ziba that had belonged to Mephibosheth (16:4)
6. "Be gentle with the young man Absalom, for my sake." (18:5)
7. Because David was mourning for Absalom to the extent of ignoring the victory. (18:19-33)
8. Nothing. David forgave him for his cursing. (19:18-23)
9. Joab began to attack the city where Sheba was holding out but a wise woman convinced the people to cut off Sheba's head and throw it over the wall. (Ch. 20)
10. Because the men risked their lives for it. (23:17)
11. In Israel, there were 800,000 valiant men and in Judah, 500,000. (24:9)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. He convinced a wise woman from Tekoa to pretend to have a comparable situation. David made the decision in favor of the woman's plea and the woman compared it to Absalom. (14:1-21)

2. He was extremely handsome with a lot of hair. He was cunning, hot-tempered, deceitful, proud, selfish, vengeful and power-hungry. (14:25-26, 15:1-12)
3. David did not want to fight his own son; he loved him. David realized that the hearts of the people were with Absalom; and he was outnumbered. Most importantly, he did not want to fight the judgment of God. (15:13-16:14)
4. His identity was totally wrapped up in his advice. If his counsel was ignored, his life's meaning was destroyed. Who we are and what we do are two separate things. (17:23)
5. Joab did because he disagreed with the king's command, rebelled, and took matters into his own hands. (18:4-15)
6. Ahimaaz was too eager to be the messenger and had to step aside for the Cushite anyway. Sometimes we have to step aside when another has the word. (18:19-32)
7. They lived as widows because Absalom had defiled them. (20:3)
8. It was because Saul had killed the Gibeonites. They killed seven of Saul's descendants and the famine was ended. The Gibeonites had a grudge against the kingdom, not against David. (21:1-14)
9. It was an act of trusting in the size of the armies and not God. (24:1-10)
10. The three days of plague. David chose direct discipline from the Lord instead of falling into the hands of men, because God is merciful. (24:13-16)

Kings

- LESSON 26** I Kings 1-11
- LESSON 27** I Kings 12-22
- LESSON 28** II Kings 1-12
- LESSON 29** II Kings 13-25

I KINGS 1-11

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. Who were Adonijah and Solomon? (Chapter 1)
2. What kind of instructions did David leave with Solomon? (Chapter 2)
3. What word of God was fulfilled when Solomon removed Abiathar from the priesthood? (Chapter 2)
4. What was Solomon's request from God with which the Lord was pleased? Did God grant this request? (Chapters 3 & 4)
5. Where did Solomon get the wood for the temple? (Chapter 5)
6. How long did it take to build the temple? The palace? (Chapters 6 & 7)
7. The Queen of Sheba was obviously impressed by Solomon. To what did she attribute his wealth and wisdom? (Chapter 10)
8. Why did the whole world seek audience with Solomon? (Chapter 10)
9. What three men were Solomon's adversaries? (Chapter 11)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What can we learn from Adonijah's attempt to be king? (Chapter 1)
2. Can you see a spiritual parallel in 1 Kings 6:7 between building the temple and the church today? (Chapter 6)
3. What was the most impressive thing about the temple after it was completed? What does this tell us about the church today? (Chapter 8)
4. What was Solomon's main request in his prayer of dedication for the temple? (Chapter 8)
5. What did God require of Solomon in order to make his promises good to him? (Chapter 9)
6. What was Solomon's downfall? (Chapter 11)
7. Because Solomon went after other gods, the Lord said He would tear the kingdom from his hands. Why did He let Solomon's house still reign over part of Israel? (Chapter 11)

03

CONSIDERATION CORNER

Consider this:

Jesus is King! Jesus is King!
True King of Israel; David's great Son:
Hope of the Father; Heir to the throne.
Lion of Judah; Lamb that was slain.
True King of Israel, yet shall he reign.
Jesus is King! Jesus is King!

ANSWERS TO LESSON 26

OBSERVATIONS

1. They were both sons of David. Adoni jah was by David's wife Haggith. Solomon was by Bathsheba. (1:11)
2. To walk in God's ways, keeping His commandments and requirements Also, to treat kindly those who treated David kindly and to deal strictly with the evil ones. (2:1-9)
3. That the priesthood would be removed from the house of Eli. (2:27)
4. He asked for wisdom to lead the people. God made him wiser than any man and also gave him riches and honor, which he had not asked for. (3:9-28, 4:29-34)
5. From Hiram, king of Tyre, with whom he had a treaty. (5)
6. Seven years, thirteen years. (6:38, 7:1)
7. To the Lord, the God of Israel and His eternal love. (10:9)
8. To hear the wisdom which God put in his heart. (10:24)
9. Hadad, Rezon and Jeroboam. (11:14-40)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. When we try to promote ourselves, we will get nowhere. Our promotion must come from the Lord! (1)
2. God wants us to prepare ourselves at home in our prayer closets. He'll shape us through personal experience. He does not want arguing and fighting in the church.
3. The glory of God completely filled the temple so that the priest could not walk around. The most important thing in the church is experiencing the presence of God. (8:10-11)
4. That God would hear those who pray to Him in the temple. (8:30)
5. Solomon must walk before Him in integrity of heart and uprightness and not turn away from the Lord. (9:4-8)
6. He married wives from foreign lands, which the Lord had commanded His people not to marry, and they led him astray to other gods. (11:1-10)
7. For David's sake and for Jerusalem. (11:11-13)

I KINGS 12-22

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. Why did God tell Rehoboam not to fight Jeroboam and the Israelites? (Chapter 12)
2. What did the prophet from Judah prophesy against the altar at Bethel? (Chapter 13)
3. Jeroboam tried to seize the prophet from Judah and later he tried to “wine and dine” him. What were the results? (Chapter 13)
4. How did Jeroboam’s wife’s disguise work, and what did Ahijah the prophet predict? (Chapter 14)
5. How did Judah fare under Rehoboam? (Chapter 14)
6. Rehoboam’s son was evil, but his grandson Asa was good. What reason did God give for raising up Asa and strengthening Jerusalem? (Chapter 15)
7. What kind of kings were Nadab, Baasha, Zimri, Omri and Ahab? (Chapters 15 & 16)
8. What was miraculous about Elijah’s trip back to Jezreel? (Chapter 18)
9. How did Elijah indicate to Elisha that he should follow him? (Chapter 19)
10. What did the prophet tell Ahab was the reason God would give them victory over Ben-Hadad? (Chapter 20)
11. Was Ahab happy when Jezebel obtained Naboth’s vineyard for him? (Chapter 21)
12. Why didn’t Ahab like Micaiah and what was Micaiah’s final prophecy for Ahab? (Chapter 22)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Was Solomon's son Rehoboam as wise as he was? (Chapter 12)
2. What motivated Jeroboam to make golden calves and Rehoboam to gather an army in Jerusalem? (Chapter 12)
3. What difficult lesson do we learn from the young prophet and the old prophet? (Chapter 13)
4. Why did Elijah leave the brook Cherith? What does this tell us about God's word? (Chapter 17)
5. Why did Elijah not feel sorry for the widow at Zarephath? When her flour was running out, he told her to make him some bread first, and when her son died he didn't mourn, but took the boy from her! (Chapter 17)
6. How did Obadiah, Ahab's servant, show his faith by his works? (Chapter 18)
7. What did Elijah prove to the people on Mount Carmel? (Chapter 18)
8. How was Elijah being tested when he sent his servant back seven times to look for clouds? (Chapter 18)
9. What was Elijah doing in a cave in Mount Horeb? (Chapter 19)
10. Why was Ahab's sympathy for Ben-Hadad condemned by God? What might this represent in our lives? (Chapter 20)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

**CONSIDERATION
CORNER**

Consider this:

We can clearly see the faithfulness of God in the book of Kings. Again and again the royal house of David seemed in peril of being cut off. Through revolts, sickness and sword, God preserved the line of David to Jesus.

ANSWERS TO LESSON 27

OBSERVATIONS

1. The circumstances were God's doing to fulfill His judgment on Solomon's house. 1 Kings (12:22- 24)
2. That a man named Josiah would be born to the house of David; and he would kill Jeroboam's priests. (13:2)
3. Jeroboam's hand withered and the prophet refused to eat with him. (13:1-10)
4. The disguise failed because the Lord told Ahijah who it was. Ahijah prophesied their boy would die and the house of Jeroboam would be cut off. (14:1-20)
5. They did much evil and Jerusalem was sacked by Egypt. (14:21-31)
6. For David's sake, who had been righteous. (15:4-5)
7. They were all corrupt, each one seeming to be more evil than the last. (15-16)
8. He outran Ahab's chariot. (18:45-46)
9. He threw his cloak around him. He gave him no more encouragement, the rest was up to Elisha. (19:19-21)
10. So they would know that He was the Lord! (20:13)
11. No, Elijah prophesied their deaths for shedding Naboth's blood. (21)
12. Ahab said he didn't like Micaiah because he never prophesied good things for him. Micaiah prophesied Ahab's defeat and death in battle at Ramoth Gilead. (22:1-28)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. No. He did not take the counsel of the elders, but of his young friends, and he answered the people harshly. (12:1-15)
2. They both were moved by fear. The Lord spoke to Rehoboam through a prophet not to fight. What Jeroboam did was an abomination. (12:21-33)
3. We must take God's word before the enticing words of men. (13)
4. The brook dried up according to God's word. We must realize God's word affects everyone, but He will provide for the righteous. (17:1-6)
5. Elijah had the word of the Lord. Although he was compassionate, he did not show sympathy because he knew God would prevail. (17:7-24)
6. He put his life in jeopardy by hiding 100 prophets of God and supplying them with food and water. (18:1-6)
7. That the Lord is God and other gods are man's creations. (18:16-39)
8. Elijah had told Ahab "there is the sound of heavy rain" when there wasn't a cloud in the sky. God was testing Elijah's steadfastness. (18:41-45)
9. He was afraid of Jezebel and he thought he was the only godly person left. However, the Lord spoke to him in a whisper and said there were 7,000 people in Israel who had not worshipped Baal. (19:1-18)
10. God wanted Ben-Hadad destroyed. We need to deal ruthlessly with evil in our lives and give no place to it! (20:13-43)

II KINGS 1-12

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. Ahaziah who had fallen and injured himself, died for what reason? (Chapter 1)
2. What was Elisha's miracle at Jericho? (Chapter 2)
3. What miracle and prophecy did Elisha have for the kings of Israel, Judah, and Edom? (Chapter 3)
4. What miracles did Elisha do to feed the people of Gilgal where there was a famine? (Chapter 4)
5. What miracle did Elisha do when the company of prophets was building a bigger meeting place? (Chapter 6)
6. The famine in Samaria was so bad the people were turning to cannibalism, and yet Elisha prophesied that there would be abundant food by the next day. How did this come to pass and what happened to the officer who doubted this word? (Chapter 7)
7. How did God double-bless the Shunamite widow that gave to Elisha? (Chapter 8)
8. Who became king of Aram in Ben-Hadad's place? (Chapter 8)
9. What prophecy concerning Jezebel's death was literally fulfilled? (Chapter 9)
10. Was Athaliah a good queen? (Chapter 11)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What good character traits can we learn from Elisha and his relationship with Elijah? (Chapter 2)
2. What lesson can be learned from the youths who made fun of Elisha? (Chapter 2)
3. What lesson can be learned from the widow's multiplied oil? (Chapter 4)
4. What lesson can be learned from the Shunamite woman and her son? (Chapter 4)
5. Why do you think God required Namaan to dip seven times in the Jordan? (Chapter 5)
6. What lesson can be learned from Gehazi, Elisha's servant, when he accepted money from Namaan? (Chapter 5)
7. Why didn't Elisha panic when Aram's army set out to capture him and how did Elisha treat them when God gave him the victory? (Chapter 6)
8. Elisha had the word of God that Jehu was to be king. What aspect of God's character did Jehu portray? (Chapters 9 & 10)
9. Did Jehu walk totally in God's ways? What does this show us of God's opinion of our works? (Chapters 9 & 10)
10. What aspect of God's character did Joash portray? (Chapter 12)

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

Solomon's reign can be seen as a type of Christ's reign on earth. Throughout his reign there was peace and rest. There was unequalled wisdom and knowledge. There was unrivaled wealth and glory. There was also **fame, honor, joy, and safety.**

ANSWERS TO LESSON 28

OBSERVATIONS

1. He sought Baal-Zebub instead of God. (1)
2. He made the water wholesome. (2:19-22)
3. He made water flow in the desert and said they would overthrow Moab. (3)
4. He made poison stew good and he multiplied bread. (4:38-44)
5. He made an iron axehead float. (6:1-6)
6. God made the Arameans think a vast army was pursuing them, so they fled, leaving all their supplies behind. The doubting officer was trampled to death at the city gate. (7)
7. She missed the famine by going out of the country as Elisha told her. When she returned, she received her property back with interest! (8:1-6)
8. Hazael. He murdered Ben-Hadad. (8:7-15)
9. Her body was eaten by dogs and not buried. (9:35-37)
10. No. She was evil and the people killed her so that Joash could reign. (11)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Steadfastness and faith. Nothing moved him away from Elijah's side. He kept his eye always on him and wasn't afraid to ask for a double portion of his spirit. (2:1-18)
2. Spiritual things are nothing to make fun of. (2:23-25)
3. If we serve the Lord He will never abandon us in our time of need. (4:1-7)
4. If we give to others, God will give us our heart's desire. (4:8-37)
5. God wanted the proud warrior to humble himself. (5:1-15)
6. Greed always has a bitter end. (5:15-27)
7. Elisha saw in the Spirit, God's army, which was much greater. He treated Aram's army with mercy. (6:8-23)
8. Judgment on the evil of the land. (9-10)
9. No, Jehu was not careful to walk in the law of the Lord. God is glad for works and will reward us, but He is after our hearts the most. (10:28-31)
10. Restoration. (12)

II KINGS 13-25

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. Did Jehoahaz and Jehoash walk in God's ways? (Chapter 13)
2. How did Elisha die? (Chapter 13)
3. How did Jehoash know he could defeat Ben-Hadad three times? (Chapter 13)
4. What was Amaziah's sin, which caused Judah's defeat by Israel? (Chapter 14)
5. What did Jeroboam II do for Israel? (Chapter 14)
6. What prophet did God use in Hezekiah's reign? (Chapter 19)
7. What sign did the Lord give Hezekiah that he would be healed? (Chapter 20)
8. What word did God speak through Isaiah concerning Babylon and Judah after the Babylonian messengers left? (Chapter 20)
9. What did God say He would do to Jerusalem because of Manasseh?
What did Manasseh and his son Amon do? (Chapter 21)
10. Josiah walked with God as David did. What things were restored in his reign? (Chapters 22 & 23)
11. How did Josiah, as king of Judah, relate to the shrines, temples, altars and priests of the false gods?
(Chapters 22 & 23)
12. Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin and Zedekian kings of Judah, did evil in God's eyes. What judgment upon Judah came to pass in their reigns and who did God use to carry out this judgment? (Chapter 23-25)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What miracle did Elisha's dead bones perform? What does this say about Elisha? (Chapter 13)
2. Many kings in Judah and Israel were evil and a few were good, but almost all had one sin in common. What was this sin that the book of Kings mentions? (Chapters 15-17)
3. What important event took place in Israel during the reigns of Pekah and Hoshea? Why did God allow this? (Chapters 15-17)
4. Why were the evils of Ahaz unusually bad? (Chapters 15-17)
5. How did the new inhabitants of Samaria worship? (Chapters 15-17)
6. Why was Hezekiah successful in all that he undertook? (Chapters 18 & 19)
7. Were Sennacherib's messengers telling the truth when they told of their king's strengths and how he had defeated many nations? Did their threats against Judah come to pass? Why? (Chapters 18 & 19)
8. Why did Isaiah first tell Hezekiah he would die, then came back and said he would live? What does this show us about God? (Chapter 20)
9. What did God say to Josiah through Huldah the prophetess? (Chapter 22)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

The spiritual condition of God’s people can readily be seen by the fact that God’s word was found by Hilkiah in the temple after being lost for many years. This may seem preposterous to us, and yet I believe many people have “lost” God’s word in their temples (hearts) for periods of time!

ANSWERS TO LESSON 29

OBSERVATIONS

1. No, they committed the sins of Jeroboam and did evil in the eyes of the Lord. (13:1-11)
2. He died from an illness. (13:14, 20)
3. Elisha told him he would defeat Ben-Hadad as many times as he struck the ground with his arrows. (13:19, 25)
4. Arrogance. (14:9-13)
5. He restored her boundaries. (14: 25)
6. Isaiah. (19:2)
7. The sun went backward ten steps. (20:8-11)
8. That Judah would be taken captive into Babylon. (20:16-18)
9. God said He would wipe out Jerusalem as one wipes a dish. Manasseh and Amon led the people astray by worshipping idols. (21)
10. The temple, the book of the law, the covenant, the passover. (22-23)
11. He tore down all the shrines, altars and temples and put to death all the priests of the false gods. (23)
12. Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, destroyed Jerusalem, then took Judah captive to Babylon. (25:1-21)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. They raised a man from the dead. God’s anointing was truly on Elisha’s life. (13:21)
2. The sin of Jeroboam, which was having golden calves in the places of worship at Bethel and Dan, and keeping the high places of Baal worship. (15-17)
3. Israel was deported to Assyria, which fulfilled God’s judgment because they did not walk in His ways. (15, 17)
4. Because he used his son for a sacrifice and conspired with a heathen nation against Israel. (16)
5. One of Israel’s priests was sent back to teach them how to worship the Lord; but they had a mixture of their own worship and true worship. (17:24-41)
6. He walked in the ways of the Lord. (18:5-8)
7. It was true that Sennacherib was strong and powerful, but their boasting against the Lord was a big mistake. God killed 185,000 of Sennacherib’s men, then they fled. His own sons then assassinated him. (18:17-19:37)
8. Both of Isaiah’s words were the word of the Lord. God changed His mind because He was moved by Hezekiah’s tears and prayers. (20:1-6)
9. God said He would bring disaster on Judah and her people, according to the book, because of their evil. However, He said He would not do it in Josiah’s lifetime because he was walking with the Lord and had humbled himself. (22:15-20)

Chronicles

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| LESSON 30 | I Chronicles 1-12 |
| LESSON 31 | I Chronicles 17-29 |
| LESSON 32 | II Chronicles 1-16 |
| LESSON 33 | II Chronicles 17-36 |

I CHRONICLES 1-16

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. In Biblical times, people were often named after an event or a character trait. What do the following names mean and why were they given these names? Peleg (1:19), Jabez (4:9), Beriah (7:23) (Chapters 1-9)
2. What reason does scripture give for Saul's death? (Chapter 10)
3. Who was Joab and what brave act did he do? (Chapters 11 & 12)
4. What other name was given to Jerusalem and why? (Chapters 11 & 12)
5. How did David become powerful? (Chapters 11 & 12)
6. Who was Benaiah and what exploits did he do? (Chapters 11 & 12)
7. Why did David and the people want to bring back the ark? (Chapter 13)
8. What was David's reason for dancing when the ark was brought into Jerusalem? What was Michal's reaction to David? (Chapter 15)
9. What wonderful acts did David praise God for in the psalm found in chapter 16?

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. People have pointed out that the genealogies in Chronicles differ from those found other places, even in Scripture. Some say this shows the Bible to be imperfect. Why might these differences exist, and what is the purpose for a book like Chronicles? (Chapters 1-9)
2. How did the people already know when Saul died, that David should be the next king? What does this show us about leadership? (Chapter 11)
3. Why would David not drink the water from Bethlehem that his three mighty men had brought him? What did these men show David by their action? (Chapter 11)
4. Why did God kill Uzza even when Israel was singing and rejoicing with instruments and dancing? How was the ark supposed to be carried, and what does this show us about God? (Chapters 13 & 15)
5. How did David know whether or not to attack the Philistines in the valley of Rephaim? How is this different from the way Saul moved? (Chapter 14)
6. What did David credit for the solid establishing of his kingship, and what did he think the reason for this was? What does this tell us about David? (Chapter 14)
7. Do you see a significance in David's action of giving bread, dates and raisins to each Israelite after the ark was back and they had sacrificed? (Chapter 16)
8. What is significant about David's action in 16:43?

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

Instruments and music played an amazing and powerful role in worship, warfare, celebrations, and dispelling evil in those days. Though there were specific people to minister in music, David and the elders fully participated with dancing, singing, praising, and playing instruments. Following David's example, let's embrace this gift from God and not think only a few can participate!

ANSWERS TO LESSON 30

OBSERVATIONS

1. Peleg means "division". In those days, the earth was divided, probably referring to the tower of Babel incident. Jabez means "pain." He was born in pain. Beriah means "misfortune". There was misfortune in the family.
2. He was unfaithful to the Lord, did not keep the word of the Lord, and even consulted a medium. (10:13)
3. Joab led the attack to capture Jerusalem and thus became commander of David's army. (11:6)
4. It was called the city of David because it represented David's victory and reign. (11:7)
5. Because God "Almighty" was with him. (11:9)
6. He was a valiant fighter who killed Moab's best men, slew a lion in a pit on a snowy day and killed a seven and a half foot Egyptian. (11:22-23)
7. Because God has ordained it as the way Israel should seek Him. They had not inquired of it during the reign of Saul. (13:3)
8. David danced to praise God and celebrate. Michal despised him. (15:25-29)
9. Miracles, judgements, covenant, inheritance, guidance, protection, salvation, love, and glory.

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. In the writings of those days, "son" could mean specifically a son or generally a descendant, successor or nation. Father could generally mean founder, predecessor or ancestor. Thus, there could be differences in genealogies without contradiction. A book like Chronicles gives historical, genealogical and chronological orientation and authenticity to the scriptures.
2. David led Israel in battle even when Saul was king and everyone knew the word of the Lord. Leadership is easily recognized and received. (11:1-2).
3. The men has risked their lives for it. They proved their dedication and loyalty to David's leadership. (11:17-19)
4. He touched the ark with his hand and the ark was only to be carried on the shoulders of the Levites. The Lord wants us to be faithful to His ways. (13:9-10, 15:2, 13-15)
5. God told David to go and he would win. God told David to listen for the sound of marching in the balsam trees as a sign. Saul did not inquire of God. (14:8-17)
6. David knew that the Lord had established him as king over Israel and that his kingdom had been highly exalted for the sake of God's people Israel. This shows David's humility before God. (14:2)
7. Yes, David was celebrating the Lord's goodness. If we seek first the Kingdom of God, all that we need will be added unto us. (16:2-3)
8. When God's house was put in order, David knew that blessing the families was important next.

I CHRONICLES 17-29

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. What vice caused Hanun, King of the Ammonites, to lose favor with David and thus be defeated in battle? (Chapter 19)
2. What was the negative result of David counting the fighting men? What was David's reaction? (Chapter 21)
3. David did not build the temple, but how did he help his son Solomon build it? (Chapter 22)
4. What does Solomon mean? (Chapter 22)
5. How were the duties of the 38,000 Levites divided up? (Chapter 23)
6. Since the Levites no longer had to carry the tabernacle, what was their new job? (Chapter 23)
7. What was David's overriding exhortation to Solomon? (Chapter 28)
8. What did David give to show his heart was personally burdened for and supportive of the building of the temple? (Chapter 29)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What were Nathan's answers to David about the "house of God"? What might Nathan have learned from this? (Chapter 17)
2. What impression do you get about God's feelings toward building a "house" for Him? (Chapters 18-20)
3. In contrast to many other kings, how can we summarize the spiritual and military character of David's reign?
4. What New Testament scripture comes to mind when you read that the "praisers" set apart by David were also for the ministry of prophesying? (Chapter 25)
5. What can be learned from the fact that even though the Spirit gave David the original burden and plan for the temple, Solomon built it? (Chapter 28)
6. Did David boast in the fact that he gave so much to the temple? (Chapter 29)
7. Why was David so successful as king? (Chapter 29)

03

CONSIDERATION CORNER

Consider this:

At the present rate for gold, the 3,750 tons of gold in the temple (100,000 talents) would be worth 120 BILLION dollars!

ANSWERS TO LESSON 31

OBSERVATIONS

1. Suspicion (19)
2. The Lord was not pleased, so He gave David a choice of 3 judgements. David chose the plague from God and pleaded for mercy. (21)
3. He prepared all the materials and labor to build it and gave Solomon instructions. (22)
4. Peace and rest (22:9)
5. 24,000 supervised the temple construction, 6,000 were officials and judges, 4,000 were gatekeepers, and 4,000 were "praisers". (23:3-5)
6. The service of the temple. (23:25-32)
7. To acknowledge God in every way and serve Him wholeheartedly. (28:9)
8. He gave his personal treasures. (29:3-5)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. First he told David to go ahead and build it because God was with Him. Then, the Lord spoke to him saying David wasn't to build it, but his son would. Nathan learned not to assume God's will for someone even if they are righteous like David. (17:1-15)
2. He never told any of Israel's leaders to build a house for Him. God is not impressed with a house made by the hands of man. He told David that He would build a house for David, and that David's throne would be established forever. (17:1-15)
3. He did what was right in the sight of God and gained victory on every side. (18-20)
4. Ephesians 5:18-19 (25:1)
5. We won't always be around to see our visions. come to pass; but if we train others in the way, it will be accomplished. (28)
6. No, he acknowledged that everything comes from God in the first place! (29:14)
7. He was humble. He honored God and acknowledge Him in all his ways. (29:14-30)

II CHRONICLES 1-16

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. God blessed Solomon abundantly. How many burnt offerings did Solomon offer initially? How many horses did he have and what were silver and gold as common as during his reign? (Chapter 1)
2. What was the queen of Sheba's impression of Solomon? How did she think Solomo's people fared? (Chapter 9)
3. What was Rehoboam's relationship to the Lord after his position as king became established? (Chapters 10-12)
4. Why did God allow Shishak to capture Judah? (Chapter 12)
5. What was Rehoboam's response toward God after Shishak's victory? (Chapter 12)
6. What was Abijah's relationship with the Lord? (Chapter 13)
7. How did Abijah's reign effect Jeroboam? (Chapter 13)
8. What was the resulting fruit of Asa's dedication to the Lord? (Chapter 14)
9. Why did war come during Asa's reign after the ten years of peace? (Chapter 16)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Did Solomon have a right understanding about the purpose of the temple? Did he expect God to dwell in it? (Chapter 2)
2. What did Hiram, King of Tyre, say about Solomon's reign which shows Solomon was a testimony for the Lord to the world? (Chapter 2)
3. What could the interior of the temple being pure gold represent? (Chapter 3)
4. Solomon named the two main pillars of the temple Jakin and Boaz. What do these names mean and what is the significance? (Chapter 3)
5. These chapters are essentially a recounting of 1 Kings 7-9 describing the temple, its furnishings, activities of the priests, worship, God filling the temple with his glory, and, appearing to Solomon. Why would these things be repeated and what was Solomon's heart in his prayers? (Chapters 4-8)
6. Did all the people of the other tribes rebel against Rehoboam who led Judah and Benjamin? What does this tell us? (Chapter 10)
7. What can we see by the fact that Asa dealt strongly even with his own grandmother when he deposed her as queen and broke her idols? (Chapter 15)
8. What was Asa's reaction to Hanani the seer? Why do you think he reacted that way and what was the fruit of it? (Chapter 16)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

There has never been a king like Solomon, except...
Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore
Till moons shall wax and wane no more
Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
Peculiar honors to our King;

Angels descend with songs again
And earth repeat the loud Amen!

- Isaac Watts

ANSWERS TO LESSON 32

OBSERVATIONS

1. 1,000 burnt offerings, 12,000 horses, silver and gold was as common as stones. (1:6, 14-15)
2. She was overwhelmed by Solomon's wisdom and wealth; and she was impressed by how happy his people were. (9:3-7)
3. He abandoned the law of the Lord and as a result, Israel was unfaithful to God. (12:1-2)
4. Because Judah had abandoned Him, He was abandoning them to Shishak. (12:5)
5. He humbled himself before the Lord. (12:12)
6. He relied on the Lord God of his fathers. (13:10, 18)
7. Jeroboam withstood Abijah so God struck him and he died. (13:20)
8. Ten years of peace, as well as prosperity. (14:1-7)
9. He relied on King Aram and not the Lord. (16:7-9)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. He had a proper perspective about the temple. He said even the highest heavens could not contain God and who was he to build a temple for the Living God, except for burnt offerings? (2:5-6)
2. He said that Solomon was endowed with intelligence and discernment and that God made him king because He loves His people. (2:11-12)
3. Our times of meeting with the Lord are very valuable and should be pure. (3:4)
4. Jakin means "he establishes" and Boaz means "in Him is strength". God supported Solomon and the people and gave them strength. (3:17)
5. When God says something more than once it establishes its importance. Solomon wanted to praise God for his promises, acts, and glory. He also asked God to dwell with his people as they follow Him wholeheartedly. (6)
6. No, not everyone. We should not be moved by people, but by the Lord! (10:16-17)
7. The judgment of God is no respecter of persons. (15:16)
8. He was angry and he threw Hamani in prison. Probably bitterness and pride were the curse and he ended up with a disease in his feet which he never sought God about. (16:7-10)

II CHRONICLES 17-36

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. How was Jehosaphat like his father and how did he encourage the people to follow God? (Chapter 17)
2. Why did Jehosaphat appoint judges? (Chapter 19)
3. What great truth does Jahaziel proclaim? (Chapter 20)
4. What was Jehosaphat's reaction to the threat of attack by the Moabites and Ammonites? (Chapter 20)
5. What was Jehoram, King of Judah, like? (Chapter 21)
6. How did Ahaziah do wrong by listening to his mother? (Chapter 22)
7. Why did Joash's reign end in defeat? (Chapter 24)
8. Hezekiah is known for his acts of restoration. What things were restored? (Chapters 29-31)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What was God's opinion of Jehoshaphat's allegiance with Ahab? What does this tell us about our relationships with other people? (Chapters 18 & 19)
2. How did Ahab get killed and Jehoshaphat remain alive when Ahab was in disguise and Jehosaphat was obvious? What does this tell us about death? (Chapters 18 & 19)
3. What great lesson do we learn about praise? (Chapter 20)
4. What aspects of God's character are seen in the events surrounding Joash's ascension to the throne, Jehoida's courage, and Athaliah's downfall? (Chapter 23)
5. Uzziah, like so many others, started out right but ended up in rebellion, which God judged with leprosy. What led to his downfall and what can we learn from this? (Chapter 26)
6. Why wasn't God angry at Hezekiah and the people when some of them ate the passover without being ceremonially clean? (Chapter 30)
7. Sennacherib insulted the Lord God of Israel. As a result, how and where did he die? (Chapter 32)
8. What was the result of the book of the law being found in the temple? (Chapters 23, 25, 27, 28, 33, 35, 36)
9. Again, there is much here that was already recorded in 2 Kings. What is the overriding message about the rulers of both Israel and Judah and their relationship with the Lord?

03

CONSIDERATION CORNER

Consider this:

Even the best of kings were unable to establish a lasting peace.

Who is able?

The King of Kings and Prince of Peace, Jesus!

ANSWERS TO LESSON 33

OBSERVATIONS

1. He walked in the ways of David his father in his early years and he sent his officials out into the towns to teach people God's law. (17:3-9)
2. To settle disputes and keep people in God's ways. (19:4-10)
3. The battle is not ours, but God's! (20:15)
4. He proclaimed a fast and worshipped God. (20:3,18)
5. He was evil like Ahab, and he died of a disease, which was God's judgment. (21:12-19)
6. She was a granddaughter of Omri, a very wicked king, and she encouraged Ahaziah to do wrong. (22:2-4)
7. He forsook God and killed Jehoida's son Zechariah. (24:21-24)
8. The temple and its service (29:35), feasts, and contributions. (31:3-8)
3. If we seek God and praise Him before a battle, He fights for us and gives us victory! (20:21-26)
4. God sovereignly preserved Joash as a child, as He did with Moses. He executed His vengeance through Jehoida against the evil Athaliah. (23)
5. Pride led to his downfall. We need to be extra careful when we become successful that we don't forget the Lord. (26)
6. Hezekiah prayed God would accept them, even though they didn't have time to concentrate themselves. They followed the "spirit" of the law, even when they couldn't follow the "letter" of the law. (30:17-20)
7. He was killed by his own sons when he went into the temple of his own false god. (32:16-21)
8. Josiah and the people humbled themselves and pledged to do all that was written. (34:29-33)
9. When the rulers followed the Lord and his ways, they were victorious and prosperous. When they forsook God, worshipped idols, and did evil, they were fair game for the enemy. God was merciful to those who humbled themselves and repented.

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. God was grieved that Jehosaphat would join himself to someone wicked like Ahab. (18:1-19:3)
2. Ahab was killed by a wild arrow. When God wants us to die, we'll die. When He wants us to live, we'll live. (18:28-34)

LESSON 34 *Ezra*

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. Where did Cyrus get the idea to restore the temple in Jerusalem? Whose prophecy did this fulfill? (Chapter 1)
2. When the people assembled in Jerusalem to begin the rebuilding, what was the condition and outlook of the group? (Chapter 3)
3. How did Israel's enemies put a stop to the rebuilding? (Chapter 4)
4. Who encouraged the people to start rebuilding again? (Chapters 5 & 6)
5. When governor Tattenai wanted to hinder the work again, how did God use Darius to keep the work going? (Chapters 5 & 6)
6. What did the people see as the reason for being able to finish the temple? How did they react when it was finished? (Chapters 5 & 6)
7. Why did Artaxerxes want to be sure that whatever was prescribed by God would be done with diligence? (Chapter 7)
8. What was Artaxerxes' opinion of Ezra? How did Artaxerxes recommend that Ezra obtain governors and judges for the area? (Chapter 7)
9. Why did Ezra proclaim a fast as they camped at the Ahava Canal? (Chapter 8)
10. What was Ezra's initial reaction to the news that the Israelites had intermarried again with heathens? (Chapter 9)
11. How did the people respond to Ezra's leadership in regard to their sin of intermarriage? (Chapter 10)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What prompted the hearts of those people who returned to help rebuild? (Chapter 1)
2. Cyrus restored to Israel the things Nebuchadnezzar took. What do they represent? (Chapter 1)
3. What was the first thing to be restored? What does this tell us? (Chapter 3)
4. Naturally, the foundation of the temple had to be laid first. Were the people somewhat bored with this unseen part of the building? Why? (Chapter 3)
5. Why do you think the Israelites didn't want outsiders working in the temple? (Chapter 4)
6. Why did Ezra have a successful ministry among the returning exiles and why did he find favor with Artaxerxes? (Chapter 7)
7. Ezra had plenty of helpers with him as they camped at Ahava, but he would not go on when he discovered there were no Levites with him. Why? (Chapter 8)
8. Why did Ezra entrust the gold and silver into the hands of the consecrated priests rather than the strong warriors, to protect it from robbers? (Chapter 8)
9. Compare the ministries of Jeshua and Zerubbabel with Haggai and Zechariah and with Ezra. (Chapter 8)

03

CONSIDERATION CORNER

Consider this:

Zerubbabel means “born in Babylon” and Jeshua means “God will save”. What a pair to lead Israel in restoration, and what a picture of us. Though we were “born in Babylon”, God has saved us.

ANSWERS TO LESSON 34

OBSERVATIONS

1. The Lord moved Cyrus’ heart and he fulfilled Jeremiah’s prophecy. (1:1-2)
2. They were unified and dedicated. (3:1-7)
3. By stirring up fears in King Artaxerxes that if Jerusalem was rebuilt, there would be revolt. (4:7-24)
4. The prophets of God, Haggai and Zechariah. (5:1)
5. Darius searched the records and found Cyrus’ decree. He supported Cyrus’ decree wholeheartedly. (6:1-12)
6. They thanked God for changing the attitude of the king so that he assisted them in building the temple. They were filled with joy. (6:22)
7. He didn’t want God’s wrath against his realm or against his sons. (7:23)
8. He thought Ezra was wise and learned. He told Ezra to use his wisdom to appoint governors and judges. (7:25)
9. To seek God for safe journey, as testimony to the king. (8:21-23)
10. He was appalled and wondered if God would continue to bless the returning exiles. (9)
11. They all repented when they saw Ezra’s response to the seriousness of their sin. (10:1-4)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. God moved on their hearts to go. The ones who stayed helped by providing gold, silver and materials for building. God calls some to do restoration work. Everybody can help by supporting the effort even if they aren’t directly working. (1:5-6)
2. Nebuchadnezzar represents the devourer (devil) and Cyrus represents the Lord. If we repent, the Lord will restore to us what the devil has stolen. (1:7-8)
3. They restored the altar first. Worship of the Lord should be the first priority in our lives and the church. (3:1-6)
4. No, they shouted and praised God because it represented the first step of restoration. (3:10-13)
5. The outsiders wanted a piece of the action without the relationship to God. God had warned the Israelites many times about being yoked with unbelievers. (4:1-5)
6. He devoted himself to the study and observance of the law of the Lord and the hand of the Lord was upon him. (7)
7. He knew the importance of ministering to the Lord first before building. (8:15-32)
8. They were trusting in God for their protection, not their own strength. (8:24-34)
9. Jeshua and Zerubbabel were pioneers in the restoration work. They were in on the foundation work and could be compared to apostles. Haggai and Zechariah were also in on the foundation work, but were used more prophetically in encouraging the people and stirring them up to continue with the work they had started.

LESSON 35 ***Nehemiah***

NEHEMIAH

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. What was Nehemiah's reaction to Hanani's report about Jerusalem and the remnant? (Chapter 1)
2. In what way did Nehemiah pray for the exiled Israelites and for Jerusalem? (Chapter 1)
3. What was Nehemiah's "secular" job? How did God use this to accomplish greater purposes? (Chapters 1 & 2)
4. How did Nehemiah help the poor? (Chapter 5)
5. How did Sanballat try to scheme against Nehemiah as the wall was completed? (Chapter 6)
6. Why did the enemies lose their self-confidence? (Chapter 6)
7. What type of men did Nehemiah put in charge of Jerusalem and its gates? (Chapter 7)
8. How did the people respond when Ezra read from the book of the Law? (Chapter 8)
9. What did the exiles do on the 24th day of the seventh month? What was the atmosphere of their assembly? (Chapter 9)
10. How did the exiles reorganize the population in Jerusalem and surrounding Judah? (Chapter 11)
11. What was the atmosphere surrounding the dedication of the wall? (Chapter 12)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What reason does Nehemiah give for the king granting his requests? What can we learn from this? (Chapter 2)
2. Why did Nehemiah ride around Jerusalem at night before beginning to rebuild? (Chapter 2)
3. There were a number of gates for the various operations of the city of Jerusalem. If these were compared to the church, what might these gates represent in terms of operations of ministry? (Chapter 3)
4. What type of influence do Sanballat and Tobiah represent to us today? (Chapter 4)
5. How did Nehemiah organize the people and encourage them against the enemy? What does this say to us today, especially working with one hand and a sword in the other? (Chapter 4)
6. Why was it important to restore the feast of tabernacles to the exiles? (Chapter 8)
7. Besides rebuilding and purifying the wall, Nehemiah brought many reforms in Israel. What were they? (Chapter 13)

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

We are builders of a city in the minds and lives of men;
And we work with love and pity, using voice and deed and pen. It
shall certainly be finished, though as yet we know not when, This
fair city of true worship to the one true God again.
And this city, we must build it in the nations' social life; For if
but the many willed it, it would end our social strife. And this
city we are building must encompass every land.
Though it has no outward gilding, yet the wise ones understand.
Though Sanballats and Tobiahs in their thousands may oppose,
God has still His Nehemiahs who at last repulse all foes.
Oft resisted, ne'er defeated, with our trowels on we plod, Till
that city is completed by the reigning Christ of God.

LESSON 35: NEHEMIAH

ANSWERS TO LESSON 35

OBSERVATIONS

1. He mourned with weeping and fasting for several days. (1:4)
2. He interceded for Israel. He confessed the sins and repented for Israel and reminded God of His promise for restoration. (1:5-11)
3. He was the king's cupbearer. When the king saw he was sad about Jerusalem he helped Nehemiah return and rebuild the city. (1:11-2:9)
4. He made the rich stop charging interest and taking their land and children as collateral. He had all the land given back. (5:1-13)
5. He tried to get Nehemiah to come out of Jerusalem to meet with him concerning some false story that he made up. He also hired a false prophet against him. (6:1-14)
6. They saw God had helped the builders. (6:16)
7. Men of integrity who feared God and also lived in Jerusalem itself. (7:2-3)
8. They raised their hands shouting amen! They bowed in worship and many wept, but Nehemiah encouraged them to be joyful saying, "the joy of the Lord is our strength." (8:5-11)
9. It was a solemn day of fasting and prayer. They reminded themselves of God's deeds and covenant with them and they confessed and worshipped the Lord. Then they made an oath together to walk in God's commandments. (9)
10. The leaders settled in Jerusalem plus they cast lots for one out of every ten people to live in Jerusalem. The rest remained in their towns. (11:1-4)
11. They joyfully celebrated, with much singing and thanksgiving. (12:27-43)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. The gracious hand of the Lord was upon him! If we trust in God and are led by Him, He will make people generous to help us. (2:7-8)
2. Nehemiah was assessing the work that needed to be done. We need to count the cost before starting a work and get a vision for it. (2:11-18)
3. Fish gate is evangelism, sheep gate is pastoring, fountain gate and dung gate are confession and deliverance ministry, Jeshanah (old) gate is wisdom from the elderly and past, horse gate is strengthening and equipping for battle, east gate is worship, inspection gate is discernment and preparation, valley gate is prayer, gate of the guard is watching and praying, gate of Ephraim is bearing fruit. (3)
4. The influence of Satan through fear, criticism, jealousy, envy, strife. (4:1-9)
5. Though the people were spread out, he told them to listen for the trumpet to rally. Some were posted to just watch, especially at the low points of the wall. We must always be ready to fight and overcome Satan while we do work for the Lord. (4:13-23)
6. This signified resting in the Lord. When they lived in booths, it showed they were set apart to God though in a foreign land. (8:13-18)
7. He helped restore the reading of the law and the Sabbath. He and purified marriages and restored tithing. (13)

LESSON 36 ***Esther***

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. What did Queen Vashti do that made the king take her position away? (Chapter 1)
2. To whom was her position given? (Chapter 2)
3. Who was Mordecai? (Chapter 2)
4. What did Mordecai do to save the king's life? (Chapter 2)
5. Who was Haman? Was his only enemy Mordecai? (Chapter 3)
6. What decree did Haman issue? (Chapter 3)
7. Describe Esther's plan to redeem Israel. (Chapters 4 & 5)
8. Why was Mordecai honored? (Chapter 6)
9. Why was Haman coming to see the king? (Ch. 6)
10. Who did Haman think the king was going to honor? Who, in fact, did the king want to honor and why? (Chapter 6)
11. Was Haman's plan executed? What happened instead? (Chapters 7 & 8)
12. What was the outcome for the Jews throughout the kingdom? (Chapters 7 & 8)
13. What feast is still celebrated today by the Jews in memory of their deliverance? (Chapter 9)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What could the 12 months of beauty treatments exemplify in our lives? (Chapter 2)
2. What did Haman suggest as the reward for the men who would carry out the destruction of the Jews? How is this significant to us? (Chapter 3)
3. Why was Esther's action of going to the king so dangerous? (Chapters 4 & 5)
4. How can we be encouraged by Esther's boldness? (Chapters 4 & 5)
5. How does the manner in which Esther approached the king relate to our relationship with God? (Chapters 4 & 5)
6. What was it that sealed the king's official decrees and what did that seal mean? What does this picture in the New Testament? (Chapter 8)
7. Contrast the characteristics of Mordecai vs. Haman and the end results of their attitudes? (Chapter 8)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

Purim is a plural word derived from the Assyrian word “Pur”, meaning “lot”. The Jews celebrated that even though their enemy cast lots against them, God delivered them. How many in these days (including some Christians) allow defeat to come their way because they attribute bad circumstances to “fate” or their “lot” in life!

ANSWERS TO LESSON 36

OBSERVATIONS

1. When the king commanded her to come and display herself to him and his nobles, she refused. (1:10-12)
2. Esther, a Jewish girl. (2:5-7, 17-18)
3. A captive Jew of the tribe of Benjamin and Esther’s cousin. (2:5-7)
4. He overheard and reported a plot to assassinate the king. (2:21-23)
5. The highest honored noble of the king’s royal officials. No, he wanted to destroy all of the Jews. (3:1-6)
6. That every Jew be destroyed on a single day, the 13th day of the month of Adar. (3:7-15)
7. To be in the king’s favor, she planned a banquet, which she knew the king would love. She would then expose Haman and his wicked plot at the banquet. Haman would not dare contradict the queen in the presence of the king. (5:7-8, 7:1-8)
8. For his reporting of the attempted assassination. (6:1-11)
9. He was coming to request the hanging of Mordecai. (6:4)
10. Himself. The king actually wanted to honor Mordecai for saving his life. (6:1-11)
11. No, the king made an edict to save all Jews and Haman was hung on his own gallows. (7-8)
12. They were not destroyed because a second

decree was sent forth overruling the first, according to Mordecai the new high official. (8)

13. Purim. (9:18-32)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Oil, myrrh and sweet perfumes were used as purifiers. We must allow the Holy Spirit to purify our souls to prepare us for our bridegroom Jesus. (2:12-13)
2. He offered 10,000 talents of silver. Satan always tempts people with “false rewards” for doing his business. (3:9)
3. She faced the risk of death because it was not her time to approach the king without his invitation. (4:11, 5:1-3)
4. We need to follow her example of faith in God, and answering her people’s prayer, no matter how impossible it seemed. (4:15-5:3)
5. She dressed in her royal garments. God accepts us into His presence when He sees us clothed in the “royal” righteousness of Jesus’ blood. (5:1)
6. The king’s signet ring. Nothing could revoke a document sealed with this ring. We are sealed by the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13) and no one can revoke our belonging to God! (8:8)
7. Mordecai had love, compassion, faithfulness, and courage, which resulted in honor. Haman had deceit, hate, pride, and selfishness, which resulted in death.