

HOMEWORK FOR SEPTEMBER 19

Kings: Judah

Leviticus 18:1-5, 24-30; 1 Kings 14:21-32; 15:1-24; 2 Kings 18:1-8; 19:15-19; 21:1-16; 22:1-23:28; 24:1-25:21; Exodus 34:6-7; 2 Chronicles 30:9; Ezekiel 34; 2 Chronicles 18:16; Matthew 9:36; 22:37-39; John 10:1-15; 1 Peter 5:1-4

QUESTIONS

Read 1 Kings 14:21-32. Why was God angrier with Judah under Rehoboam than any other generation of His people before them?
What does this tell us about Judah, who were supposed to be the remnant of God's people after Israel had split off?
Compare this passage to Leviticus 18:1-5, 24-30. Why did God warn them not to do the "detestable things" the other nations did?
Read 1 Kings 15:1-24 and compare and contrast Abijah's reign with Asa's reign. Compare their actions and their hearts.
By what criteria do all of these passages so far judge the kings of Israel?
Read 2 Kings 18:1-8 and 19:15-19. Describe Hezekiah's reforms to Judah and his heart for the Lord.
What does Hezekiah's prayer tell us about what he believes about God? How does this reflect the heart of Moses, Joshua, and David?
Read 2 Kings 21:1-16 and describe Manasseh's reign and his heart for the Lord.
Why did God choose to send the ultimate disaster on Judah?
Do you think they deserved that kind of punishment? Why or why not?
What does all of this tell us about God?

5)	Read 2 Kings 22:1-23:28 and describe Josiah's reign and his heart for the Lord
	Why did Josiah feel compelled to reform Judah? What does this tell us about the role of God's Word in our lives?
6)	Read Exodus 34:6-7 and 2 Chronicles 30:9. How does the story of the Kings of Judah show God to be gracious, compassionate, and slow to anger?
	How does the failure of Judah's kings point us ahead to a need for Jesus?
7)	Read Ezekiel 34. How did Judah's kings fail their people? What will be God's solution to their failure? How does this reflect the coming of Jesus and the message of the Gospel?
8)	Read 2 Chronicles 18:16 and Matthew 9:36. What does it tell us about God's people that they were like sheep without a shepherd? How does this imagery connect to Ezekiel 34? How does this imagery point backward of King David and point ahead to Jesus?

APPLICATION

The kings of Judah were basically evaluated by one standard – did they worship and trust God alone or did they worship other gods? Were they faithful to God or did they commit "spiritual adultery" with other gods? Did they worship God wholeheartedly or did they split their allegiance with other gods?

"Hear O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength." Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Take some time to examine your own heart. Do you really love God with all your heart, all your soul, all your, and all your strength? In what ways do you divide your heart with other "lovers"? Are there any ways that you been lead astray from "sincere and pure devotion to Christ" (2 Corinthians 11:1-4)? In what ways does your life need to change to be fully committed to God alone?