

Read Through the Old Testament

Daily Bible Reading Guide with Devotional Thoughts-and Prayer Starters © Pastor Frank Eckert

GET INTO IT ANYWAY YOU CAN!

NOVEMBER, YEAR A

(Recommended: READ summary BEFORE reading the Bible verses!)

☐ **November 1**

1 Chronicles 19: 1-19

Reflect: David defeats the Ammonites after they had shamefully arrested his messengers. David's slaying of so many people during his military campaigns comes back to haunt him as a reason why he is disqualified from building the Temple.

Prayer: Thank You, God, for enabling us to win victories over the Old Evil Foe. Amen.

☐ **November 2**

1 Chronicles 20: 1-8

Reflect: Even though driven from Israel's borders in two battles, the Philistines challenged David's supremacy. Philistine giants, including a brother of Goliath, were slain by David and his heroes.

Prayer: Lord Jesus Christ, we glorify You for conquering Your great enemy Satan. Amen.

☐ **November 3**

1 Chronicles 21: 1-30

Reflect: David was motivated by sinful pride to take this census, as if the kingdom belonged to him and not to God. The Lord sent a deadly pestilence as a punishment. David confessed his sin and was willing to offer himself and his family as a sacrifice.

Prayer: Father God, we thank You for sending Jesus whose blood cleanses us. Amen

☐ **November 4**

1 Chronicles 22: 1-19

Reflect: The House of the Lord was to be magnificent, not to the glory of David or Solomon, but to bring the world's attention to Israel's God. It was to be a fitting place for the Ark of the Covenant. David calls on the nation's leadership to seek a close relationship with God.

Prayer: Inspire us, O God, with zeal to build Your Temple, the Church of Jesus Christ. Amen.

☐ **November 5**

1 Chronicles Chapters 23-27

Reflect: Browse through these chapters if you wish. They are lists of administrative personnel set up by David. He organised for orderly and regular worship services for the Temple. The numerical schemes used for the clergy are extended to the military and other groups.

Prayer: O God, stir our people to serve You through our church's work rosters. Amen.

☐ **November 6**

1 Chronicles 28: 1-21

Reflect: At a convocation of Israel, all that David did to promote the building of the Temple came to a climax. God chose Solomon as successor. David used the assembly as a coronation occasion. Leaders pledged their allegiance to Solomon, their King and Temple builder.

Prayer: Father, empower us to build Your kingdom of grace in human hearts. Amen.

☐ **November 7**

1 Chronicles 29: 1-30

Reflect: Having made arrangements for the funding of building the Temple, David gives of his own personal wealth to accomplish the goal. But David acknowledges that the kingdom of Israel belongs not to him but to God. David's focus was on promoting true worship.

Prayer: O God, may we give worship and Your kingdom top priority in our lives. Amen.

☐ **November 8**

2 Chronicles 1:1-17

Reflect: Solomon invokes God's blessing on the immense project of building the Temple.

(It would take 200,000 men and 20 years to complete). God promised to equip Solomon with wisdom for the task and to provide the necessary riches.

Prayer: Lord God, we praise You for making us fellow-workers in building Your kingdom. May we ATTEMPT great things FOR You, and EXPECT great things FROM You. Amen.

☐ **November 9**

2 Chronicles 2: 1-18

Reflect: Solomon's first concern was to secure the necessary manpower and materials for the project. He then begins the great work of building. He is a type of Christ who also built a temple not made of stones and precious metals, but of His believers.

Prayer: Lord of the Church, we glorify You for making us living stones in Your temple. Use us to serve You in building the Church Triumphant. Amen.

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☐ November 10

2 Chronicles 3:1-17

Reflect: Details of the Temple indicate the great care with which the building was planned. The location of the Temple was on Mount Moriah. This is significantly the same place where Abraham proved himself willing to sacrifice his only son, if that's what God wanted.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank You for beautiful cathedrals, symbols of heaven's glory. Amen.

☐ November 11

2 Chronicles 4: 1-22

Reflect: The account now moves on to enumerate the interior furnishings, equipment and ornamentation of the Temple.

Prayer: O Christ, our Great High Priest, thank You for the magnificence of Your Church in heaven, beautified with the treasure of Your own saving righteousness and grace. Amen.

☐ November 12

2 Chronicles 5: 1-14

Reflect: Now that the Temple was completed, Solomon began the Dedication Ceremonies. The Ark of the Covenant was brought up out of David's tabernacle where it had temporarily been placed, to its appropriate position in the Holy of Holies of the Temple.

Prayer: Father Almighty, we magnify You for the wonderful manifestation of your presence in Your Son Jesus Christ, in the temple of His body, full of grace and truth. Amen.

☐ November 13

2 Chronicles 6: 1-42

Reflect: The Dedication Service now unfolds, with Solomon's Dedictory Address and Prayers. There is a strong contrast between God's previous actions and the "new order" that God now in a special way dwells in the Temple through the use of His Word.

Prayer: Father, we praise You that in the New Testament Church we have Your assurance that You will hear our prayers. For we call on You in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

☐ November 14

2 Chronicles 7: 1-22

Reflect: God approved the dedication of the Temple and the burnt offerings and the sacrifices, by sending fire from heaven. God points out to Solomon the Temple's uniqueness, and the promise of His blessing on their obedience.

Prayer: Lord Christ, let not pride make us complacent, lest we lose Your salvation. Amen.

☐ November 15

2 Chronicles 8: 1-18

Reflect: This chapter speaks of Solomon's success and personal piety and on some aspects of the Temple. Having built the Temple first, the way was now open for Solomon to engage in great public works projects. He protected the borders of his country against invasion.

Prayer: Lord God, even greater than the wealth and splendour of Solomon, is the eternal glory of the Second Solomon, Jesus Christ, to whom we would be ever faithful. Amen.

☐ November 16

2 Chronicles 9: 1-31

Reflect: Further evidence is given of Solomon's greatness: his extraordinary wisdom and his immense wealth. The Queen of Sheba came to Solomon with hard questions and she honoured him with extravagant gifts. David demonstrated his commitment to God's plan.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, help us to seek Your wisdom and the riches of Your grace in Your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

☐ November 17

2 Chronicles 10: 1-19

Reflect: Worship in the Temple by a united nation ended with Solomon's death. At the accession of his son, Rehoboam, ten northern tribes seceded from the union of all Israel. Tyranny is usually followed by disintegration.

Prayer: Almighty Father, we praise You that, in Your own unfathomable ways, You sometimes use situations of human perversion to carry out Your plans. Amen.

☐ November 18

2 Chronicles 11: 1-23

Reflect: The seceding tribes are now called "Israel" to distinguish them politically from the people of Judah and Benjamin, the true Israel, the people of promise. False worship introduced by Jeroboam was perpetuated. Marriages to foreign wives brought in idolatry.

Prayer: Lord God, even though many around us may forsake You in favour of modern idols, move us to worship only You as the true and living God, in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

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☐ November 19

2 Chronicles 12: 1-16

Reflect: Because Rehoboam and his people did evil in His sight, God abandons them. He allows the Egyptians to invade and rob their country of much treasure from the Temple and the king's palace. But the king and his people humbled themselves and repented.

Prayer: Lord God, when we feel strong, keep us humble. If we fail, move us in Your grace to repent and turn back to worship You above all else. Amen.

☐ November 20

2 Chronicles 13: 1-22

Reflect: Abijah gave the ultimate statement of community fidelity, expressing most clearly his concern for proper worship and Temple service. Judah would have been routed but it was God who defeated Jeroboam and the Northern Kingdom.

Prayer: O God, we thank You that because You are not AGAINST us but FOR us, we shall overcome and conquer even death, through Jesus Christ Your risen, victorious Son. Amen.

☐ November 21

2 Chronicles 14: 1-14

Reflect: Asa is presented as great on the battlefield and diligent in religious reform. The victory against the Ethiopians demonstrates God's power. Asa is portrayed as a model ruler who succeeds in bringing the community into peace by his devotion to God.

Prayer: Help us, O God, to live our daily lives aware that because you are FOR us, we shall be MORE THAN CONQUERORS, in Jesus Christ, our great Deliverer. Amen.

☐ November 22

2 Chronicles 13: 1-20

Reflect: Asa is now pictured as a great reformer. Azariah, an unknown prophet, admonished the people to seek the Lord. He is determined to stamp out idolatry from all the land. He prevailed on the people to pledge full loyalty to the Lord in a covenant renewal ceremony.

Prayer: O God of Peace, help us never to take for granted the level of peace we enjoy in our land, but make us ever humbly thankful for this precious gift and use it wisely. Amen.

☐ November 23

2 Chronicles 16: 1-14

Reflect: In the end, Asa's religious loyalty flagged. Asa's use of Temple treasures to bribe the king of Aram into attacking the Northern Kingdom was a breach of faith in God. Asa reacted to Azariah's rebuke by putting him in prison and persecuting God's messenger!

Prayer: Lord God, by the gracious operation of Your Holy Spirit, preserve us from complacency, lest we lose our faith and fall away from You. Amen.

☐ November 24

2 Chronicles 17: 1-19

Reflect: Jehoshaphat was a ruler who did mostly good things. He not only abolished idolatry, but also introduced a program of mass education in the Word of the Lord. No monarch after the time of Solomon equalled Jehoshaphat in greatness and piety.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, give us the inner strength and courage we need in order to conform to Your will despite the opposition we may encounter. Amen.

☐ November 25

2 Chronicles 18: 1-34

Reflect: The marriage of Jehoshaphat's son with Athaliah, daughter of king Ahab, may have been designed to unite the divided kingdoms, politically and religiously, but brought disaster. In an ill-fated campaign against Syria, Ahab was fatally wounded and died that day.

Prayer: Father Almighty, thank You for holding Your protecting hand over all who trust in You. Amen.

☐ November 26

2 Chronicles 19: 1-11

Reflect: The prophet made it very clear that by his disobedience King Jehoshaphat had incurred God's wrath. The king renewed his efforts to bring back to the Lord all people under his jurisdiction. He personally undertook a campaign to reform the judicial system of the land.

Prayer: Thank You, Lord, for the judicial system in our land. Empower judges to act with the wisdom that knows how to balance justice with mercy. Amen.

☐ November 27

2 Chronicles 20: 1-37

Reflect: Jehoshaphat is regarded as a righteous king, with greater victories of faith than those of Abijah and Asa. Several tribes joined forces in an attack on Judah. The king led his people in fervent prayer. For the victory God gave, king and people worshiped the Lord.

Prayer: O Father, we praise You for Your steadfast love, for we know that You will give us victory over the Old Evil Foe, through Jesus our Great Deliverer. Amen.

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☐ November 28

2 Chronicles 21: 1-20

Reflect: Jehoram is a uniformly evil king. He put all his brothers to the sword, removing any potential rivals to the throne and publicly taking control of their wealth. Elijah offered a clear condemnation of Jehoram's idolatry. God punished Judah by sending a severe plague.

Prayer: O God, give us leaders who set a good moral example lest our nation suffer Your punishments in time and eternity. Amen.

☐ November 29

2 Chronicles 22: 1-12

Reflect: Joram's youngest son, Ahaziah, was a wicked king and met a violent death after he had reigned only one year. Athaliah his mother, a daughter of Ahab usurped the throne and even killed her own grandsons. Joash, one of her grandsons and a prince, escaped.

Prayer: O Lord, help us to see that You sometimes allow afflictions to come upon us to draw us closer to You. Amen.

☐ November 30

2 Chronicles 23: 1-21

Reflect: High Priest Jehoiada plotted the overthrow of Athaliah. Jehoiada made a covenant between himself and all the people and the king, committing them to the exclusive worship of the God of Israel. Athaliah was slain and Joash enthroned.

Prayer: Lord God, we praise You for renewed zeal in Your people for Your Word. Amen.